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THE TIMES

Dim future for the electric filament bulb, p19

Plan for 2 1/4% rise in public spending this year

Cheered by the improvement in Britain's economy, the Government yesterday announced plans for a "modest" rise in public spending. It will go up by 2 1/4 per cent next year and about 2 per cent in the two succeeding years. A growth rate of 3 1/2 per cent is envisaged.

Sights set on 3 1/2% growth rate

By Melvyn Westlake
Economic Staff

With the improvement in the financial climate, the Government has decided to plan for a resumption in the growth of public spending at a "modest" rate during the final years of this decade and the early years of the next.

The annual expenditure White Paper, which was published yesterday for the financial years up to 1981-82, shows a rise in the total planned level of spending in the financial year 1978-79, which begins next April, of 2 1/4 per cent from the level it had planned to spend in the current year.

The rate of growth in the two succeeding years, 1979-80 and 1980-81, is about 2 per cent a year. The highly provisional growth estimate for spending in 1981-82 is a little under 1 per cent. All the figures are in real terms and based on 1977 survey prices.

However, calculations about the rate of growth in the coming year are made difficult by the fact that, for a variety of reasons, government departments look like spending rather less this year than had been planned 12 months ago.

If there was no similar under-spending in the coming year, the rate of growth in public spending would be as much as 6 1/2 per cent, but the actual outcome for the current year and 1978-79, however, is likely to be lower.

Treasury officials believe, however, that some under-spending will also likely next year, and that the apparent sharp jump represents a misleading picture.

At the heart of the Government's spending plans is a desire to aim at greater stability in expenditure. Government departments have been achieving in recent years, as well as a determination to leave room for cuts in taxation, both in this year's Budget and, possibly, in future Budgets.

For that reason the projected growth in public expenditure has been pitched comfortably below the level of expansion that the Government hopes can be achieved in total national output. In that context, the White Paper says that if inflation is contained and there is some recovery in world trade, the economy should be able to grow at above its past trend rate, which has been about 2 1/2 per cent a year.

For the purposes of planning decisions, it would be imprudent to count on a faster growth, productive potential than 3 per cent a year, the White Paper says. But, with the present degree of unemployment and the bonus of North Sea oil, it says, it would be disappointing if a 3 1/2 per cent growth rate was not exceeded.

A growth rate of 3 1/2 per cent for the economy as a whole would bring down unemployment

ment, but the reduction would be gradual.

How far the Government would go in cutting spending if the growth of national output turned out to be much less than expected is not disclosed. But it has tried to give itself a large margin.

It has allowed for a very sharp increase in the size of the contingency reserve in coming years. That reserve, which represents money that has not been allocated, is included in the overall expenditure totals.

Between 1978-79 and 1981-82, the contingency reserve rises from £750m to £2,000m, at 1977 survey prices.

It is therefore possible to cut total spending in future years without necessarily reducing planned programmes. That is consistent with the new emphasis on stability.

Total spending in 1978-79 is now put at £58,550m at 1977 survey prices, compared with an estimated spending outcome for the present year of £54,850m, rising to £61,327m in 1981-82, the final year covered by the White Paper.

A surprising element in the White Paper is that much of the rise in total spending in coming years results from higher subsidies and grants, while capital spending, which has suffered most in recent years, falls in the years after 1978-79.

That occurs despite the fact that many subsidies, such as those for food and to the nationalised industries, have been cut. The main reason appears to be demographic trends.

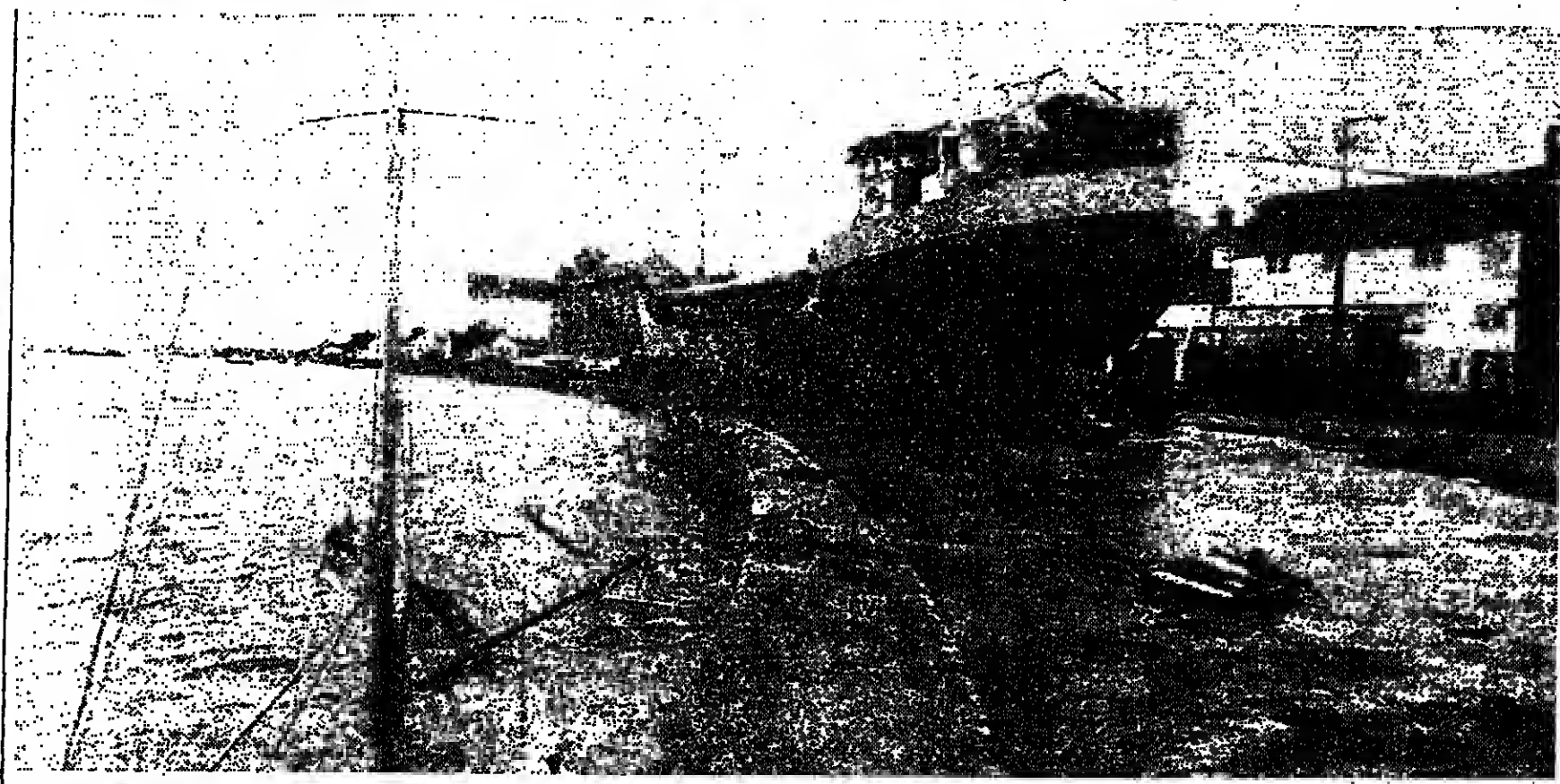
Among the programmes that show a significant rise is defence. Provision for overseas aid will rise steadily by 6 per cent a year after 1978-79.

Our Political Reporter writes: Economic ministers last night were forecasting substantial cuts in taxation in the next Budget. Publication of the spending plans gave a further boost to the increasing morale of its supporters and few of them disagreed with the report of Sir Geoffrey Howe, opposition spokesman on economic affairs: "This is an election White Paper."

It is hoped that they will help to smooth the way for another round of pay policy in cooperation with the unions after the present phase ends in July.

Industry repudiated with disappointment and anger. Sir John Methven, Director-General of the Confederation of British Industry, said that if the Government went ahead with its plans it would severely limit the scope for long-term cuts in taxation.

The effects, page 5; Leading article, 16; Industrial reaction, 17; Summary, tables, 18



Storms wreak havoc: More than twenty people were feared dead last night after the worst gales and flooding on the East Coast since 1953 (Michael Horne writes).

Most of the casualties died at sea, where hopes were fading for the crews of three ships which capsized in force 11 storms.

Thousands of people were moved from their homes along the coast from Humberside to the Channel.

Several piers were destroyed or damaged. At Margate, Kent, long sections of the 150-year-old iron pier were washed away, leaving the lifeboat station isolated out at sea. The pier was closed two years ago because it was considered unsafe.

Skegness pier, which was split in two, was said to be beyond repair. At Cleethorpes, Humberside, 150 old people and children who had been watching a show were trapped for two hours as waves crashed through the wooden structure, which was badly damaged. They were rescued by police, coastguards and off-duty firemen.

Most of Hunstanton pier, in Norfolk, was swept away, as was a ferry landing stage at East Cowes. The pier at Cleethorpes-on-Sea, with its dolphinarium and aquarium, was severely damaged. At Wells, Norfolk, a holiday coaster, The Funco, 300 tons, was washed on to the quayside, as shown in the photograph above.

But as Britain began to count the cost of the damage to coastguards and the flood control centre in London said that the worst of the severe weather was over. This morning's early tide at London Bridge was expected to reflect a return to normal after yesterday morning's surge tide which brought the Thames to within 2ft of its bank tops in central London and 12m at Richmond, Hounslow and Twickenham.

After a government request, London Weekend Television is showing a repeat of its programme London Flood Alert Plans tonight at 10.40 pm.

The worst affected coastal towns were King's Lynn, Norfolk, Cleethorpes, Humberside, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, and Deal, Kent. About a thousand people left their homes when the Nene, bringing floods up to five feet deep, Mrs Dora Callender, aged 70, was found dead in a room on the ground floor of her home. She is believed to have drowned.

At King's Lynn about four hundred homes were flooded. Twenty-two children were moved from their wards in a hospital. Shingle was swept 400 yards into the town at Deal and eight people who were trapped overnight at the Chequers Inn were rescued later by tractor.

At Cleethorpes about a thousand houses were affected by floodwater and 30 people were evacuated. An air-sea search for five Dutch seamen who abandoned the coaster Holmar 15 miles north east of Flamborough Head on Wednesday was called off. No survivors were found. Three bodies were recovered from a Greek vessel, the Sea Diamond, which sank off Lowestoft. Four men were still missing. Five men who abandoned a Cypriot ship, the Gloria, bound for King's Lynn, were still missing last night.

Photograph page 4
Diary, page 14

Continued on page 2, col 1

Continued on page 2, col 1

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Sculptor on what Sir Winston really felt

By Craig Seton

New evidence of Sir Winston Churchill's dislike of the portrait of him by Graham Sutherland emerged yesterday. The former Prime Minister and wartime leader had serious misgivings about the portrait while it was being painted, but apparently Mr Sutherland did not allow him to see it until it was completed.

The first time Sir Winston saw the completed work he is said to have remarked: "Here sits an old man on his stool, pressing and pressing."

Mr Oscar Nemon, the sculptor, whose own work of Churchill, commissioned by the Queen, is at Windsor, said yesterday that that remark left little doubt about Sir Winston's feelings, regardless of the apparent restraint shown by the former Prime Minister and Lady Spencer-Churchill at the presentation ceremony in 1954.

Asked about the destruction of the portrait, disclosed on Wednesday by Lady Spencer-Churchill's three executors, Mr Nemon, who was present occasionally at Chequers with Sir Winston and Mr Sutherland, said Mr Sutherland was not galling in suggesting that destruction was an "act of vandalism", particularly in the fortnight before Lady Spencer-Churchill's memorial service.

He suggested that both sister and artist had strong ideas of what the portrait should convey. Sir Winston felt that he was too often presented as a building, a public image that he resented as a gimmick.

"Sir Winston told me that a portrait by a painter of a person

Continued on page 2, col 1

New York on verge of 'new financial storm'

From Michael Leapman
New York, Jan 12

New York is entering a money crisis just as severe as the one that brought it to the edge of bankruptcy in 1975. This somber judgment was delivered yesterday by Mr Felix Rohatyn, chairman of the Municipal Assistance Corporation, the body set up in 1975 to stave off the city's fiscal collapse.

He told the corporation's directors that New York was about to enter a storm fully as dangerous and unpredictable as any we weathered in 1975. It was "a genuine crisis".

After meeting Mr Edward Koch, the new mayor, and the city's financial leaders, Mr Rohatyn declared: "The mayor is going to be the Joan of Arc of this city." When it was pointed out to him that Joan had been burned at the stake, he retorted that she had nonetheless saved France.

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Violence as firemen's chiefs call off strike

From Donald McIntyre
Labour Reporter
Bridlington

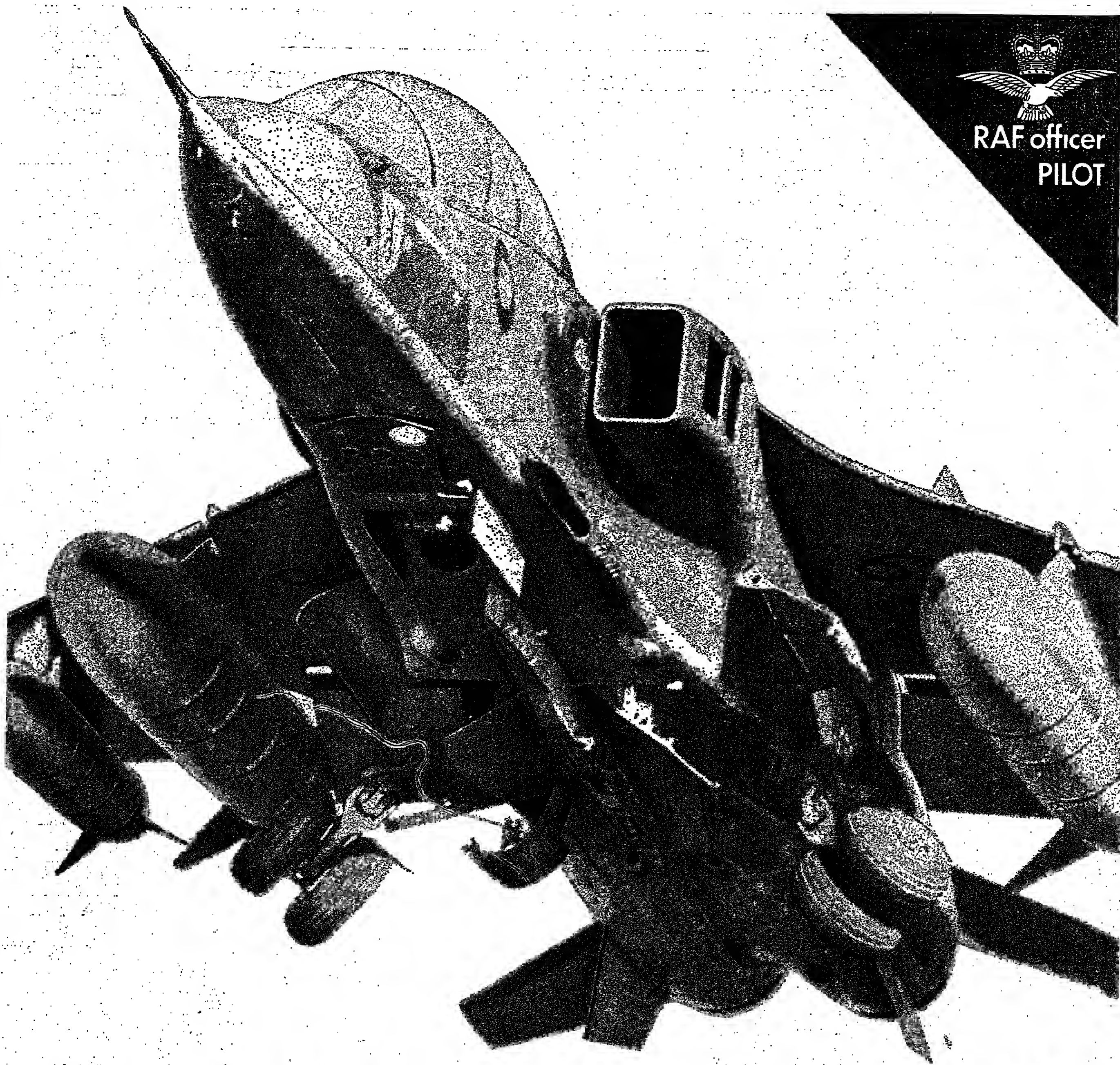
The firemen's strike was called off yesterday amid outbreaks of violence by demonstrators that Mr Terence Parry, general secretary of the Fire Brigades Union later described as "anarchy of the worst kind".

The recalled union conference at Bridlington, Humberside, decided, by a card vote of 28/23 to 11/795, to end the two-month-old strike and accept the local authorities' offer of a 10 per cent pay rise now and a future pay formula.

Work will be resumed at 9 am, on Monday, Mr Parry estimated that it would take "at least a few days" for the fire service to be fully operational.

Outside the conference hall, Mr William Miller, Scottish executive member, was pursued by demonstrators, including some firemen from the Strathclyde brigade, which opposed ending the strike, as he left the meeting. He was pushed against a wall and kicked.

The 200 men outside the Royal Spa Hall closed in on Mr Parry as he arrived. Punctures were thrown, and he fell after being propelled into the hall by policemen and a hasty York-shire fireman who was protecting him.



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HOME NEWS

Minister's views on farm expansion disputed by NFU

By Hugh Clayton
Agricultural Correspondent

Farm output made a dramatic recovery last year after the droughts of 1975 and 1976, Mr. Silkin, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said yesterday. "It illustrates the industry's ability to overcome adversity and offers a sound basis for some further expansion in future years."

He was speaking after publication of the farm price review, which showed that the value of output on British farms rose by a quarter last year while the real income of farmers was static.

"Aggregate cost increases, at £322.5m, are substantially below the £395m recorded at the last review," he said. Although net income on pig farms in England and Wales fell by a quarter it rose by a fifth on all other livestock farms and by more than two fifths on sheep farms alone.

But Professor Asher Winegarten, deputy director-general of the National Farmers' Union, has drawn the opposite conclusion. He said that the figures gave no encouragement to investment and "expansion in agriculture". Farmers were spending £1 from every £4 of profit on maintaining their businesses.

The review showed that despite much lower prices last year than in 1976 the value of vegetables grown on British farms rose. Although shopkeepers sold carrots last year for less than half of what they had charged in 1976, they were worth more than £35m to farmers last year compared with less than £30m in 1976.

Despite the glut of many vegetables last year, which farmers said would make their returns disastrously low, they made a fifth more money from them in 1977 than in 1976. "On dairy farms higher milk prices and larger herds contributed to increases in income," the review said.

Annual Review of Agriculture, 1978 (Cmd 7058, Stationery Office, £1.25).

'Help-line' for baby batterers

An attempt to establish a national telephone information service to stop desperate and overwrought parents from battering their children has been launched yesterday by the National Educational Research and Development Trust.

Parents who believe they are likely to injure their children will eventually, it is hoped, be able to use a local telephone "help-line" to speak to volunteers who would try to talk them out of their violent feelings.

A parliamentary select committee on violence in the family suggested recently that three hundred children each year are killed by their parents. The number injured might be as high as 40,000.

Mr. Barrie Knight, organizer of the "help-line" scheme, said a few branches, operating along the lines of the Samaritans already existed in some places, including London and Sheffield.

Although there would be an emergency procedure to enable volunteers to take action if the situation became dangerous during a conversation, he said, confidentiality would be protected.

"If it saves only a dozen children, then it, or something like it, must be worth a try," he said.

In the United States there are more than 700 voluntary help groups.

Inquiry to be held into boy's death

A departmental inquiry is to be set up to investigate the circumstances in which Stephen Menheniot, aged 19, was arrested by his father in 1976 after his return home unsupervised in 1972 from the care of East Sussex Social Services Department.

Mr. Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, announced the inquiry in a parliamentary written reply yesterday. He said he was consulting the authorities concerned on the form it should take and he would make a further statement when the nature of the inquiry and its terms of reference had been decided. The findings would be published.

Agatha Christie film lawsuit

Miss Vanessa Redgrave, the actress, has issued a High Court writ against three companies claiming more than £20,000 for work she has done on her film portrayal of the late Dame Agatha Christie.

The actress's company, Vanessa Redgrave Enterprises, of Potters Bar, Hertfordshire, is suing Bolgona Productions, of Epsom, Surrey, First Artists Productions Co. of Birkbeck, California, and Sweetwall Productions, of Cavendish Place, London.

Stricter control of crab, lobster catches sought

Stricter conservation of lobsters and crabs with increased minimum legal sizes for catches was recommended to the Commons trade and industry subcommittee investigating the fishing industry yesterday.

Mr. Clemence James, chairman of the North East Sea Fisheries Association, said stocks were under pressure and the minimum size at which crabs could be caught should be increased to five inches. He said fishermen appeared ready to accept the increase because a smaller crab was not commercially wanted.

The conservation of lobsters was critical because there was no protection for the female,

which became legally catchable before reaching sexual maturity. The legal minimum size should be increased from 80mm to 83mm at first and later to 85mm. That would give some females one season to breed before being caught.

Mr. James said nine-tenths of North Sea lobsters were sold abroad and the social consequences of a failure of the industry would be serious.

Mr. Gilbert Buchan, vice-president of the Scottish Fishermen's Federation, said fishermen had not got across to the Government that the arrival of oil had meant loss of access to fishing grounds. "It is one big headache for the fishing industry in a world where we have many others at present," he said.

Student tuition fees to be increased

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

Tuition fees for undergraduates and other students on advanced courses are to go up by £45 to £545 next year, and those for postgraduates by £65 to £815. Those are the new average rates recommended for full-time home students in a government circular issued yesterday.

For overseas students, fees are to go up by £55 to £705 for undergraduates and for full-time students doing

advanced work at further education colleges, by £75 to £925 for postgraduates, and by £30 to £390 for overseas students doing non-advanced work.

More than four million students will be affected. In theory, universities and local education authorities are free to fix their own fees. The circular is therefore in the form of a recommendation in practice, however, institutions and authorities usually follow the Government's guidance.

The circular says the Secretary of State understands that local authorities will be recommending their fees for home students on non-advanced courses and for those on all-part-time courses should be increased only so as to maintain income in real terms, after allowing for the effects of inflation.

She says she hopes that authorities that have introduced large increases this year for postgraduate courses will consider whether further increases are necessary next year.

Petition at Grunwick against new ballot

By Robert Parker

The Grunwick workforce has unanimously asked Mr. George Ward, managing director of the company, not to allow the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) to conduct a new ballot about having a union inside the factory.

Mr. Ward is due to meet Acas officials on Wednesday to discuss the ballot, which was requested last year by the Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff (Apex), the union involved in the dispute. The request was made after the House of Lords had ruled in November that the first ballot conducted by Acas was null and void because not all the workers had been balloted.

On the basis of that ballot Acas recommended the reinstatement of workers dismissed in August, 1976, and the recognition of a trade union.

The request to Mr. Ward not to permit a new ballot was the result of a petition organized by two employees, Mr. Lionel Southcott, a van driver, and Mrs. Olive Green, who works in the inquiry office.

Mr. Southcott said yesterday: "We read in the newspapers that Mr. Grantham (general secretary of Apex) was asking for a second ballot."

"Several of us felt that this was just too much after all the things that had happened to us, the picketing, being spat at, and more subtle things. We thought we had gone through quite enough already and decided to organize a petition."

In all, 175 of the 188 weekly-paid staff at the company signed a statement declining to take part in any inquiry or ballot organized by Acas and asking Grunwick not to hand their names and addresses to any party. The 13 people not questioned were sick, pregnant or on holiday.

Mr. Southcott insisted that the ballot until the results were presented to him. "When we presented it, he made no comment, although he seemed pleased," he said.

The strike committee, which is still mounting a small picket outside the Chapter Road gates in the morning, agreed with Apex recently that the last hope lay in a second ballot. It seems unlikely that Mr. Ward will agree to one when he meets Acas.

Police case jury 'sent out far too late'

Two east-London policemen, each fined and given suspended jail sentences after being found guilty of assaulting a man they stopped in the street, were cleared by the Court of Appeal yesterday.

Police Constable Russell Sutton, aged 23, and Police Constable David Moore, aged 26, were convicted at Chelmsford Crown Court on May 20 of assaulting Paul Gallagher, causing him actual bodily harm. Yesterday their convictions were quashed and sentences set aside.

PC Sutton, of Lynton Terrace, Roseberry Road, Manor Park, and PC Moore, of Glasgow Road, Plaistow, had each been fined £50 and given suspended jail sentences of three months. Lord Widgery, the Lord Chief Justice, said yesterday that their convictions were unsafe and unsatisfactory. He added: "The stark fact that the jury were sent out far too late. The verdicts ultimately produced must be open to challenge."

Linguists assess what went wrong with Warsaw occasion

Polished Polish mangled Carter sentiments

By David Nicholson-Lord

A small gathering of linguists this week assessed what went wrong on President Carter's visit to Poland. Their conclusion was that a rainstorm at Warsaw airport was by no means the sole culprit.

That, coupled with the lack of an advance copy of the President's speech, was the reason offered by the dismissed presidential interpreter, Mr. Steven Seymour, for translating the Polish people Mr. Carter seemed to care little and that he had abandoned the United States for good.

But a less biased explanation is that Mr. Seymour was simply in the wrong job. In the words of Mr. Jean de Lafforest, chairman of the London Association of Conference Interpreters, he was an oil painter doing the work of a watercolourist.

The analogy may not be precise, but the point at issue is clear. Mr. Seymour may be, as a presidential aide remarked, a great translator of written Polish; that does not make him a great interpreter. In fact, Mr. de Lafforest comments with pardonable irony, the two are poles apart.

A translator Mr. de Lafforest says, works in writing, polishing and refining style until it becomes a thing of beauty. An interpreter specializes in immediate, oral work.

"This is not a mere matter of semantics," he adds. "Understanding the distinction would help to reduce the astonishing frequency with which official departments, corporations, companies and others fail in their international discussions simply because they call upon unqualified persons to convey their thoughts."

Conference interpreters, whose specialty lies in rendering often long and involved passages either simultaneously or up to half an hour later, are probably an even rarer breed than ordinary interpreters.

The association, which had its annual meeting this week, has only about 40 members. Founded in 1951, it is the oldest professional body in the field. Mr. de Lafforest says, although it does not conduct examinations, would be members cannot apply to join; they must be proposed.

It is paralleled abroad by the International Association of Conference Interpreters, with

about 1,400 members throughout the world. As an indication of the species' relative rarity, Mr. de Lafforest estimates that there are between 2,000 and 2,500 specialist conference interpreters in the world.

They work for a vast range of international organizations and businesses, yet the temptation to cut linguistic corners still remains strong. The rate for a conference interpreter in a small team is about £100 a day, ignoring preparation—so translators who are paid between half and two thirds that amount often tend to be seduced beyond their abilities.

Time results. Mr. de Lafforest comments with no special reference to Mr. Seymour, is a frequently "mediocre" performance. Many organizations still think accurate interpretation is a luxury they can do without, including an astonishing number who believe the translation equipment works by itself.

Among the guilty, he numbers international bodies representing the professions, large commercial firms and some public authorities in Britain. Although British government departments apparently

come off well in comparisons of linguistic awareness, the United States seems to perform relatively poorly. Mr. de Lafforest believes Americans tend to feel that a shared ancestry somehow transcends language boundaries.

Yet no doubt Oscar Wilde would have appreciated the irony that a sizable proportion of the errors that befell international communications occur in rendering American into English, and vice versa.

There was, for instance, a brief squabble between British and American delegations at an international meeting when United States representatives objected vigorously to the British tabling of an agreed motion. To table a motion means, in America, to postpone it.

There was also the occasion when a distinguished American senator gave a former permanent secretary at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office leave to speak at a meeting by "recognizing" him from the chair. "I should think you do recognize me, chairman," the man for the FCO said. "We have known each other for 25 years."

Radio ham to mark an historic message

By Kenneth Gooling

Forty radio amateurs, ringing round the clock in a man-mountain to mark seventy-fifth anniversary of first two-way wireless telegraphy transmission between America and Europe.

The actual date of the historic exchange of messages between President Theodore Roosevelt and King Edward VII was January 18, 1903; year President Carter was sending his own message Polidhu, the location Mr. used.

It will not, however, be sible for the Queen to go to his message, as the Amateur Radio Club hoped, because the Office has ruled that would contravene international regulations.

Mr. Brian Body (call G5MLM), of the Carlist Office, are at liberty to interpret these regulations in way, we do not feel they are doing us an injustice."

But the Home Office allowed the club to use a special "MSA" (M. Seventy-fifth Anniversary) sign and during the week hope to make contact with stations throughout the world.

Marconi, whose home of Bologna will also participate, first set up a station Massachusetts to receive signals from Ft. But a gale blew down the masts constructed ships' spars carrying aerials.

He moved to St. John's, Newfoundland, and on Dec 12, 1901, received a three signal representing the letter M in Morse code.

The experiments continued the original Marconi station was rebuilt and a year later came managing that marked the radio link between the two.

From that original station Cape Cod, Mr. Robert Doherty, the control operator, has obtained approval to place the sound of the Marconi rotary spark at audio means. Again, the Office has ruled that it is illegal to send the tone from this side as it play havoc with telecommunication.

Polidhu will welcome radio enthusiasts who can drop in during the week local hotel has arranged special rates.

For the initiative, KATCO will operate from Marconi location at Cod and station G5MS, he worked from the P Hotel, with aerials on the used in the transmission years ago.

Wife of MP se on arson charge

Jane Litterick, the estranged wife of Mr. Thomas Lhu, MP for Birmingham Selly Oak, was sent for to the Central Criminal Court yesterday. She is accused of arson on November 10 year at the home in Oak Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham. Miss Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent of The Times.

Mrs. Litterick, aged 44, Quarry Road, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, was given bail in own recognizance of £5,000. A survey of £5,000, a condition that she notify police of her address and within the limits of Warwickshire County Council and City District Council before trial.

The wife of the MP was charged with setting fire to the home in Oak Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, on November 10, 1976. She is accused of setting fire to the home in Oak Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, on November 10, 1976. She is accused of setting fire to the home in Oak Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, on November 10, 1976.

Safety recall for Volkswagens

Volkswagen is recalling 383,000 early Golf and Scirocco models for rectification, discovering that they develop a fault in the steel gear (our Motorist Correspondent writes). The vehicles, built between the middle 1974 and May, 1975, and chassis numbers are Golf 3000 001 to 175 327 000, Scirocco 534 2 000 001 to 5 041 500.

Council found guilty by Ombudsman

By Our Local Government Correspondent

The Commission for Local Administration in England has found 75 council tenants at Christchurch, Dorset, after finding Christchurch Borough Council guilty of maladministration.

The case involved residents who were compulsorily moved in 1974 from their prefabricated houses, which the council had decided to demolish. As the tenants had lived there for more than five years they were eligible for home loss payments, but the council did not tell them that or that they had to claim the money within six months of leaving.

Mr. Denis Harrison, the local commissioner (Ombudsman) for the West and Midlands, investigated the case after a resident had complained. He found that the council's failure to make the payment was maladministration. In response to the findings, the council asked the Department of the Environment to agree to payments to the tenants equivalent to the home loss payments. Each tenant accordingly received £321.

Statement by minister on hypothermia criticized

By a Staff Reporter

Dr. Geoffrey Taylor, an authority on body temperature, yesterday described as "grossly misleading" remarks in the Commons by Mr. Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, on Tuesday that hypothermia appeared on only 600 death certificates in England and Wales in 1976.

Mr. Ennals had told MPs that the seriousness of hypothermia should not be overestimated, but Dr. Taylor, who has conducted several surveys on the effects on health of low body temperature, said the Registrar

General's own figures showed that as many as 55,000 deaths in a mild winter could be attributed to heart attacks, strokes and infections brought on by the cold.

In a cold winter, he said, that figure might increase by 300 to 400 cases a day. He has written to the Prime Minister asking for Mr. Ennals's resignation because of his attitude to the effects of hypothermia.

Dr. Taylor, a former professor of medicine in Pakistan, said many old people are living in cold homes because they cannot afford adequate heating, in spite of heating allowances.

Pump rooms face demolition

The pump rooms at Tenbury Wells, Worcestershire, built in 1862 in the style of a Chinese temple, are likely to be demolished. The local council has agreed that it would be unreasonable to expect the owners to spend an estimated £20,000 required to restore them.

Town hall ban on Front defeated

A Labour attempt to prevent the National Front from using the town hall at Hyde, Greater Manchester, for a private meeting on January 26 was defeated at a meeting of Tameside policy committee yesterday.

The meeting decided by 12 votes to eight to allow any legally constituted party or body to hire local public halls.

Another attempt to oust Mr Gormley fails

By Our Labour Editor

Mr. Joseph Gormley, moderate leader of the miners, easily beat off another demand yesterday for his dismissal over his handling of the controversial issue of pit productivity agreements.

By 15 votes to eight, the executive of the National Union of Mineworkers agreed not to consider a proposal from the militant South Wales coalfield leadership seeking to oust Mr. Gormley from the union presidency.

The South Wales miners argued that he should be dismissed for his part in the union's change to local incentive schemes despite a pithead ballot that went narrowly against such deals.

Mr. Gormley, who has hinted that he might leave before he is 65 if the early retirement scheme for miners is introduced for union officials, is said to be seriously considering the idea.

Private detectives hunt record chart riggers

By Martin Huckerby
Music Reporter

As part of some of the toughest action yet taken against people trying to falsify the popular record sales charts, private detectives have been brought in to catch those responsible for trying to fake the results.

For many years unscrupulous people or organizations have sought to boost unfairly the chances of particular records. The various attempts to stamp out the practice do not appear to have met with much success.

Now British Phonographic Industry, the trade association for record companies, has warned its members that it will seek to take criminal action when it receives reports of such activities.

The association has hired private detectives who started work at the beginning of this month, investigating allegations of falsifying sales records and seeking evidence of such activities.

In a letter to members of the association, Mr. Geoffrey Bridge,

the director general, said it was the association's "resolute intention to eradicate these illegal practices". Falsifying the charts, he said, might involve offences under the Trade Descriptions Act, 1968, or of conspiracy to defraud the public.

An official of the association said that those involved in the practices might be record companies, music publishers, or the managers of groups and artists.

The weekly charts are compiled by the British Market Research Bureau from information sent in by about 300 record shops. Those wanting to falsify the charts discover the names of the shops on the bureau's list and then buy many copies of the records they want to promote.

Although it would probably cost too much to promote a record by such methods above the fourth place in the chart, once a popular record has reached the top 50 it can generate its own momentum; dealers will order the record, radio stations will play it, and thus it can become a "hit".

Wider disruption of BBC TV programmes likely

By Our Arts Reporter

An extension of the dispute between the BBC and the Association of Broadcasting and Allied Staffs seems inevitable, with widespread disruption of television programmes, by the weekend.

Two thirds of the 450 engineers working at the Television Centre in London had been seeking support for the ABS last night and programme schedules were revised to provide substitute material for viewers. The engineers have been refusing to work in the

BBC's largest production centre without reaching agreement on an existing "hours of work" dispute.

The union, whose members are holding a mass meeting in West London today, is meeting branch officials outside London.

Fear that the dispute might spread to other BBC branches was expressed in a message the staff by Mr. Michael B. director of personnel. He said: "It is the BBC's wish to see this local dispute settled or sensible basis."

Course planned in Celtic studies

A two-year accredited course in Celtic studies may result from a new link between a new link between the only Celtic college, on the Isle of Skye, and of Stirling University.

The course would include studies in Gaelic, Breton, Welsh, and the relevance of their cultures today.

Germany after Hitler

Geoffrey Bird describes Britain's part in the reconstruction of Germany's universities after 1945 in *The Times Higher Education Supplement*. "The Maurice Gemson reflects his recent move from the L to the new European University Institute in Florence, as Frances Gibb talks to Dr. Albin Sloman, Vice-Chancellor, Essex University about lessons of the 1960s."

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PUBLIC EXPENDITURE WHITE PAPER

Health: Growth will only keep pace with changing needs

By David Nicholson-Lord
Growth in the health and social services over the next four years will be little more than keep pace with changing needs, yesterday's White Paper on public expenditure plans makes clear.
Spending is forecast to increase by 2 per cent from this year's level to £2,500m in 1978-79 and then to continue rising at an average yearly figure of 1.7 per cent to 1981-82. The final year of the cycle allows for slightly more growth, with a 3 per cent growth planned in social services and a 1.8 per cent rise in hospital and community health spending.
That has to be measured, however, against the minimum growth required to cater for improvements in medical techniques and the growing numbers of elderly people and children in care. The White Paper puts that at 2 per cent a year in the social services and 1 per cent for hospitals and community health.
On top of government aid already announced for the construction industry, building programmes will also be funded from an extra £20m in health and £30m in social services for each of the years 1980-81 and 1981-82.
The White Paper also identifies underspending of 1 per cent

on health and 2 per cent on social services in 1976-77, the first year in which cash limits were set for the bulk of expenditure. In the health service, that was because inflation was higher than expected when limits were set.
Spending on social security is expected to rise by about 6 per cent in 1978-79 over present levels and then to average out at 1.3 per cent until 1981-82, when it should reach £14,600m.
The increase is largely accounted for by the child-benefit scheme, which is estimated to cost an extra £1,000m by 1981. The number of people receiving unemployment benefit, according to the White Paper, will reach a peak of 7,000,000 in 1978-79 and then fall to 5,100,000 by 1981.
Overseas aid, which has suffered greatly in recent years, is now planned to be £2,600m in 1978-79, £25m higher than provided for in last year's White Paper. It is then forecast to rise by 6 per cent a year to a figure of £3,020m by 1981-82.
Mr Geoffrey Dray, general secretary of the National and Local Government Officers' Association, said the White Paper showed a disturbing shift from short-term cuts in favour of a long-term restraint on spending.
The British Medical Association said projected spending on health in 1981-82 would be even less than in 1976-77.
Summary and tables, page 18
Leading article, page 15

Transport: A big rise in local subsidies

By Michael Bailey
A rise of nearly a half in local transport subsidies, to be paid for mainly by cuts in the motorway and trunk road programme, is the main feature of the new transport budget.
Total government transport expenditure is marginally increased compared with last year's budget, with an extra £50m in 1978-79, £35m in 1979-80, and £30m in 1980-81 to a total of £2,575m. That, this year, reduces slightly to £2,554m in 1981-82.
Subsidies to local bus, underground, and ferry services go up from last year's estimate of £1,030m to 1982 to £1,155m, and concessionary fares subsidy from £1,000m to £1,240m.
Trunk road building, which last year was planned to rise from £400m in 1978-79 to £425m the following year and continue rising thereafter, will now be pegged at £410m in 1982. There are, however, increases in local road spending from £420m to £468m in maintenance and £275m to £280m in 1980 to give a steady workload in the predictable future. Those figures include the road and transport element of help to the construction industry announced last October.
The main shift is being made to ensure an adequate provision of public transport, especially in rural areas, as foreshadowed in last year's transport policy White Paper.

WEST EUROPE
Christian Democrats shy from coalition including Communists

From Our Own Correspondent
Rome, Jan 12
Informed guesses place the date of the demise of Signor Andreotti's minority Christian Democratic Government as next Monday. Three of the six parties that support the Government have called for its removal and replacement by an emergency coalition that would include the Communists.
One of the three is the Communist Party itself. The Communists are notably under strain today after last night's session of the governing Christian Democratic Party's national executive.
The meeting was supposed to be brought a precise decision on what the majority party proposed doing about the Communist election. He also demanded in the event Benigno Zaccagnini, the party secretary, rejected the idea of a government with the Communists and raised the possibility but not the desirability of a coalition with the Communists. The party secretary offered at the next step a review of the six-party agreement on which the present administration's programme is based, with the prospect of "a broad and fruitful parliamentary convergence".

This somewhat baffling phrase is interpreted by experts as meaning that the Communists might expect to be able to vote in favour of a new programme, but could not expect to be allowed to do more than abstain on the vote of confidence.
A Communist feeling is that Signor Zaccagnini's report is a totally inadequate response to the request put forward by them, by the Socialists and by the Republicans for an emergency Government.
There is circumstantial pressure on the Christian Democrats to refuse closer arrangements with the Communists. The Vatican has made it clear that, in its view, no such move could properly be taken without a general election.
Mr Richard Gardner, the American Ambassador, is due back tomorrow from what are described as "emergency meetings" in Washington and he is expected to make a statement about United States reluctance to see the Communists called into help to solve the country's problems. A substantial part of the Christian Democratic group in Parliament would object to adopting the Communists as full partners in a coalition.

Left uses Bologna as its intellectual powerhouse

Cooperation in Italians' wartime resistance held as political model

From Peter Nicholls
Bologna, Jan 12
The drive of the Communists towards central power is playing its part in the changing role of the region round Bologna, which is the greatest stronghold the party has in Italy.
By chance, evidence of change coincides with the election of Signor Landolfi Turci as head of the regional administration of Emilia-Romagna. At 37, he is the youngest man to hold such a post in any Italian region.
Small and notoriously energetic—"he sleeps in the car", it is said of him, "between one meeting and another"—he is closely attuned to the views of Signor Enrico Berlinguer, the Communist leader. From the first day of his appointment last week he was describing how he saw the new national role of his region.
He came to office after the sudden death of Sergio Cusani, under whose leadership Signor Turci had been responsible for local matters. He is an administrator of Communists and Socialists.
The Communists alone have an absolute majority in the regional council (26 seats out of 50), the only region in which this is the case. The total is

brought to 30 with the Socialist seats.
The Christian Democrats refuse to cooperate in the executive, in spite of Communist pressures to do so, although they have accepted the chairmanship of the regional council, which they see as an institutional and not a political post.
Signor Turci is anxious to refurbish the image of Emilia-Romagna as communism's great shop window in Italy, which student violence and economic problems have now battered. He still feels that Emilia-Romagna has shown that the Communists are excellent administrators.
Bologna has frequently been described as the best administered city in the country. The thinking of the party is no longer focused on this point, however. The region is seen to be suffering the same problems as the rest of the country, but with ideas for their solution that could be adapted for use at national level.
Signor Turci recalls the co-operation during the resistance to fascism in Emilia of Roman Catholics, Communists and Republicans. The wartime agreement was not simply anti-fascist but represented a step

forward from the anti-clericalism of the Risorgimento and pre-fascist tradition in Italy.
Emilia's Christian Democrats reject this idea on the ground that Catholics have a totally different outlook on politics and society to the Communists. The Communists are going a long way to try to attract Catholic votes.
A Socialist who helped to draft the joint document with the Communists on the administration's policy says "active" praise of religion had to be taken out of the document on Socialist insistence.
The implications of the change of role are deep. Regional identity will be much more subordinated than before to the requirements of the Communist Party's national strategy. Historically the change is said to represent a reversal of the left's attitude towards the piece of Catholics in power.
Emilia-Romagna was one of the great centres of the Socialist and then the Communist tradition. Its roots were anti-Catholic. The left now acknowledges the usefulness, in the words of one Bologna scholar, of the Catholic militancy that derived from the Counter-Reformation.

Housing: Slow, steady expansion lies behind apparent drop in spending

By Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent
The fall in interest rates in the past year is the main cause for the apparent reduction in housing expenditure forecast in the White Paper. Subsidies will in consequence be lower than expected.
Otherwise, the Government's spending plans envisage slow, steady expansion over the next four years. Housing has suffered several cuts recently and in the past few months they have been reversed.
New systems of planning and controlling housing capital expenditure have been introduced in the hope of gaining a more objective picture of the housing system, involving local authorities' housing investment programmes develop overall distribution.
The Government intends to spend £10m on the savings bonus

and loan scheme for first-time purchasers, starting in 1980-81. The scheme will be introduced in the present session. The cost will be met from savings in the housing budget.
The White Paper comments that housing conditions have greatly improved in the past 25 years, but that there is now no crude national surplus of houses.
It acknowledges regional imbalances, with shortages in some areas and overcapacity in others. More than one household in 10 lives in physically unsatisfactory houses or overcrowded conditions. For house building, the Government is planning a five-year programme in which it will spend £1,100,000,000 and 99,000 starts, with 100,000 approvals and 100,000 completions.
Water industry spending plans show big capital reductions. That

is the result of the water authorities' first comprehensive assessment of their resources. Since population growth has proved smaller than expected, capital requirements for 1978-80 are well below predictions.
The Association of Metropolitan Authorities expressed disapproval about the White Paper. Mr Tom Culcott, the secretary, said the Government had acknowledged the councils' part in curbing the growth of public spending but now that a medium-term plan for growth was planned local authorities were being treated less than generously.
Mr Geoffrey Dray, general secretary of the National and Local Government Officers' Association, said he was "most disappointed" that with an improving economy the opportunity had been taken to restore the past two years' cuts.

Efforts to play down election dispute between French majority groups

From Ian Murray,
Paris, Jan 12
Both M. Barre, the Prime Minister, and M. Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist leader, have been anxious to play down the long-running disagreement over government candidates for the forthcoming election. The disagreement was brought into the open last night by the Gaullists after a meeting of the government ministers and junior ministers. The Gaullists said that the electoral pact between the majority parties was "obsolete" and in consequence they could no longer accept the idea that only one candidate represent the parties should be put forward in the first ballot.
The Gaullists' anger was aroused by a meeting of the other majority parties at the Hotel Matignon, the Prime Minister's official residence, to discuss which party should contest which constituency. M. Barre was acting as a referee. As the Gaullists did not choose to attend they were not included in the discussions which led to candidates for 63 seats being agreed and chosen for the first ballot.
M. Barre said in a television interview last night that the argument was only a minor pre-election jiff and there would be others in the weeks

to come. He added that a multiplicity of candidates was tantamount to anarchy and it made good sense for the majority not to go into the election in disorder. A certain number of groups, not including the RPR (the Gaullist Rassemblement) decided to understand in this effort of electoral qualification *Honni soit qui mal y pense*.
M. Chirac called all the Gaullist ministers and junior ministers to a meeting to discuss the majority's problems. It was agreed that the ministers present would discuss the matter with the Gaullist leadership.
President Giscard d'Estaing, in a radio interview broadcast today, took up again the theme of pluralism in political life. He said he was waiting for a positive evolution from the present political situation in which parties had become stuck in their positions.
M. Chirac took a meeting of 300 Gaullist candidates in Toulouse yesterday that "the objective remains the union and, in any case, the interests of the majority".
He emphasized that the Gaullists were still determined to abide by the electoral pact in the second ballot and their candidates would be asked to stand down anywhere where they had polled fewer votes in the first round than another

majority candidate. Agreement on putting forward single majority candidates is of prime importance to the smaller parties with little mass appeal. Any number of candidates can contest the first ballot but only those polling more than 12.5 per cent of the total electoral roll can stand in the second round.
During the many meetings the majority parties have held since the election, the main aim of the smaller parties has been to put up their candidates as a determined number of seats.
On November 10 agreement was reached on what was hoped would be only the first list of presidential candidates. It covered 100 seats of which 43 were to have a Gaullist candidate, 27 a Republican, nine a Centrist, five Independents, two Social Democrats, one Radical and 13 candidates would stand with no party label for "the presidential majority".
On December 7 another meeting reached agreement on 11 candidates for Paris—four Gaullists, three Republicans and one each for other parties and groups.
The Gaullists' tactic now is to win as many seats in their own right as possible, which would give them maximum influence in any new majority government.

Strike hits two Paris newspapers

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Jan 12
Figaro and France Soir, the two Paris newspapers belonging to M. Robert Hersant, failed to appear today as a result of a dispute over restructuring plans. According to the unions, these will lead to the loss of between 692 and 931 of the 1,200 jobs in the group.
An outline of the plans, involving the transfer of the printing of the two newspapers from central Paris to Plaine-St-Denis on the outskirts, was issued last November. The plans also call for merging the administration of the two newspapers into one.
Fifteen members of the France Soir staff learnt that they were to be transferred to Figaro and immediately went on strike. On Tuesday other administrative grades who believed that they might also be affected supported the strike and yesterday the staff of both newspapers stopped work and occupied the works floor.
The men went back to work but nothing was done while they waited for a meeting between their representatives and the management. As a result no editions of either newspaper could appear.
The editorial staff of France Soir has given support to the unions in their efforts to discuss the full meaning of the reorganization plans.

Search for Basque extremists

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Jan 12
Pamplona, where a police inspector and two members of the Basque separatist organization ETA were killed in a shoot-out yesterday, was under strong police guard today as the hunt for ETA members continued.
All entrances to Pamplona were closely guarded and security measures on the frontier with France have been tightened.
The police found a blood-stained *ikurrria*, the Basque national flag, early today on the spot where the two ETA members had been shot dead.
In a flat railed just before the shooting, the police said they had discovered plans to assassinate a Member of Parliament, the rising Democratic Central Union for Navarra and to kidnap an industrialist.
Pamplona is the capital of Navarra, a province which is not included in the Government's autonomy measure for the Basque country. It is believed that ETA had deliberately chosen Pamplona for its operations in order to increase tension. The Democratic Centre Union won a majority of seats in the province and is resisting pressure by the Basque Nationalist Party and the Socialists to incorporate Navarra into the Basque country. There is a likelihood of a referendum being held in Navarra on the issue.

Education: Little scope for any improvement

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent
Public spending on education over the next five years is expected to be sufficient to maintain existing standards but provide little room for improvement.
Total spending on education and libraries is expected to increase slightly over the next five years, the estimated expenditure in the current year of £7,646m (all figures at 1977 survey prices) to £7,687m in 1982, an increase of £41m over the total of £7,638m in 1976-77.
In schools, where numbers will be falling, spending is expected to increase in higher and further education, where student numbers are rising and unit costs are higher.
Spending on education is particularly difficult for the Government to plan because of the wide range of local authorities. An eighth of public expenditure goes on education, which varies from 10 per cent in the north to 12 per cent in the south.
Provision has been made in the White Paper for a freeze on total staff numbers.
The number of primary places is to be allowed to rise progressively throughout the period, but the number of "rising-fives" in infant classes is to stay at the present level.
The charge for school meals is to be increased progressively to allow for a reduction of the present charge for a dinner is 25p; the actual cost is about 50p.

Police: The computer is full up

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent
Provision has been made in the White Paper for the replacement of the police national computer in 1978-79. The Home Office said yesterday it was being replaced a year or two earlier than expected because of the demand made by the computer for the amount of information it could hold had been reached.
There was no room on the present machine for all the names of missing persons and disqualified drivers. Until the new machine was installed the police have been asked to use the missing persons list excessively.
The original machine, which cost £5.2m, came into use in 1972. It has been trading well but it will be able to handle double the number of inquiries.
The Home Office refused to disclose for "commercial" reasons what the trade-in value of the present machine will be. The extra sum to be paid for the new one would be £3.6m.
In addition there will be a more up-to-date disc storage unit. That, the Home Office said, would pay for itself in four or five years because of savings on maintenance costs.

Spain extends sea limit to 200 miles

Madrid, Jan 12
A committee of the Cortes (Parliament) has approved a draft law that would extend the limit of Spain's control over coastal waters to 200 miles. The present limit is 12 miles. The extension is in reply to a similar one made by EEC countries last year. It will offer much needed protection to the Spanish fishing fleet and give the country a stronger bargaining position in its negotiations for membership of the EEC.
Spain has also decided to reply to the restrictions imposed by EEC countries against its exports of iron and steel by itself raising trade barriers against the same countries.

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Britons the most negative about EEC membership

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, Jan 12
Britain is the only country in the EEC where more people think membership of the Community is a "bad thing" than a "good thing". This emerges from the findings of the latest six-monthly opinion poll conducted by the European Commission in the nine member states.
People were asked: "Generally speaking, do you think that membership of the Common Market is a good thing, a bad thing, or neither good nor bad?" In Britain, 37 per cent of those questioned considered membership a "bad thing"; 15 per cent, a "good"; and 23 per cent, neither.
This was a slightly less negative result than in the previous poll when 40 per cent of Britons condemned the EEC. The most recent poll finds 56 per cent of

EEC citizens on average approving of their countries' membership, with 14 per cent disapproving and 23 per cent indifferent.
Asked to express their degree of satisfaction with "the way democracy works in your country," a significant majority of people interviewed pronounced themselves very or fairly satisfied in most EEC countries. A notable exception was Italy where only 19 per cent thought democracy in good health. However, this was better than the 12 per cent recorded in the last poll.
The Irish (73 per cent) and the British (65 per cent) gave the most optimistic replies to the question: "Do you think living standards will improve over the next five years?" in the Community as a whole, only 54 per cent replied in the affirmative.

Television head held in Lisbon on arms charge

From Our Correspondent
Lisbon, Jan 12
The arrest early today of Dr Eduardo Pedro, Socialist Party MP and director of Portuguese television, has caused consternation in political circles here.
The arrest, on a charge of illegal possession of arms and explosives, was made during a police sweep of the Lisbon area in search of smugglers of large quantities of electric domestic appliances. A van full of these was found also to contain arms and explosives, and was connected with Dr Pedro.
The Socialist Party has issued a communique praising Dr Pedro for his anti-Fascist history, which included 10 years in the notorious Tarrafal concentration camp during the political prisoners on Sal Island. Nevertheless, the communique ends by saying: "The law is equal for all Portuguese."

Oberammergau votes for traditional text

Oberammergau, Jan 12—The residents of this Bavarian mountain village have rejected a reformed version of the centuries-old Passion Play which eliminates references considered anti-Semitic. Herr Ernst Zwink, the mayor, said today. The referendum, held on December 18, showed that 60 per cent of the population favoured staging the play with the traditional text, written by Alois Daisenberg, a Bavarian priest, in 1860.
The old text has been described as anti-Semitic. The reformed version, written in the manner of a medieval mystery play by another Bavarian priest, Ferdinand Rosner, was performed for one week in August as a test. The mayor and his council have the responsibility of deciding which version to stage in 1980 for the next Passion Play season.—UPI.

Defence: Quiet satisfaction at the ministry

By Henry Smith
Defence Correspondent
Defence spending will rise by 3 per cent in 1978-80 and again in 1980-81, as disclosed in *The Times* today. The Ministry of Defence has been treated with quiet satisfaction at the Ministry of Defence at the White Paper on public expenditure.
The defence budget for 1978-80 shows a £5,466m, which is 166m more than the £5,280m for 1977-78. The increase is due to a rise in the defence budget for 1980-81 to £5,566m, though that will be subject to review next year in the light of economic circumstances. For 1981-82 the White Paper simply repeats the 1980-81 total and promises a 1m figure in due course.
The rise brings Britain into line with the agreement made between the six major powers to allow an annual 3 per cent increase in defence spending. The White Paper gives defence spending in 1977-78 as £5,244m, an additional £11m.

Arts: More for purchases

By Our Arts Reporter
The Government is to make more money available to museums and galleries to enable them to buy more items, the White Paper says.
There is also to be a small increase for the Arts Council, whose present budget is £41.7m. Following the Arts Council's request for running local libraries will continue to show a modest increase as new facilities come into use.
Until the Supply Estimates are published, probably in March, the Arts Council will not know exactly what it will receive in grant-in-aid.
Mr Kenneth Robinson, chairman of the Arts Council, reacting to the news that the council's grant figure will be delayed, said: "The Arts Council and more particularly its clients will be put in an intolerable position in respect of their planning for the coming financial year."
Lord Donaldson of Kingsbridge, Minister of State, Education and

Science, said at a press briefing yesterday that the total predicted expenditure on the arts for 1978-79, £47.4m, represented a slight easing.
The additional money for purchase grants, he hoped, would check the bad trend of works of art being sold abroad. The provision of £1m in 1978-79 and £2m in 1979-80 and later years.
There would also be £1m more in 1979-80 and later years to enable overseas maintenance work on buildings housing the national collections.
Lord Donaldson said two things had happened to the Arts Council: some local authorities had made economies while many had not, and box office receipts had suffered throughout the country, but were now picking up.
He referred to an extra £3m for construction schemes in 1978-79, of which £1.2m would be for the National Gallery's air-conditioning, £1.6m for institutional maintenance, and the balance for housing the arts.

Finland bars Sex Pistols

Helsinki, Jan 12—The Finnish Interior Ministry has stopped the British punk rock band the Sex Pistols from appearing at a concert in Helsinki by cancelling the band's work permits.
It gave as grounds for cancelling the permits the fact that three of the band's four members had been convicted.

Lawyers blamed for jail guns

Stuttgart, Jan 12—Dr Kurt Rebmann, West Germany's chief federal prosecutor, said today that the guns with which Andreas Baader and Jan Carl Raspe allegedly committed the suicide in Stammheim prison last October were smuggled in by two lawyers, Arndt Mueller and Armin Nowiera.
Dr Rebmann told an investigating committee of Stuttgart's State Parliament that the lawyers, now themselves in prison, took the guns and explosives into Stammheim last spring.

French secret police hunt illegal radio stations

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Jan 12
Ravens went on the air for an hour and a half last night with a programme of music and a discussion about the state broadcasting monopoly. It is supposed to be the first of a number of "green radio" pirate stations that are to be opened in the capital in the next few weeks.
Like most of the pirates that have begun transmitting in France since the municipal elections last March, Radio Bastille is being run by members of the ecological movement. The avowed aim is to provide a local public service programme, with discussions between local people about local problems.
The first stations were in the east of France, around Strasbourg, and the pirate radio in that area has been broadcasting with surprising regularity considering the intensive police efforts to track it down.

The broadcasters avoid detecting by recording the programme on cassette and then setting up the transmitter at a different and remote place before each broadcast. Some used helium balloons to raise an aerial and give greater range.
Be the time the scanners can locate where they are the transmitter has been packed in a suitcase and the station is closed.
This technique is the one that has been used by Paris's first and best-known local pirate, Radio Abbesses, which started last July. The transmitter had to be hidden in the maze of streets round the foot of Montmartre rather than in the countryside, but it proved just as difficult for the police to find.
The hunt for Abbesses clearly proved so difficult that it was entrusted to the secret police. On Saturday they raided the headquarters of the station in

the Rue d'Orsel, at the foot of Montmartre. Eleven people were detained and questioned but most of their equipment was not found and they are threatening to be back on the air soon.
The station's equipment costs less than £45 to buy and the five-watt transmitter is no bigger than a cigarette packet. A 12-volt battery provides the power and the aerial used is telescopic. According to where it is set up, it has a range of anything from a quarter of a mile to the whole of the eighth arrondissement, which is its home.
The programmes were recorded on cassette during the week. Since July there have been discussions with local people about many of their problems such as traffic jams, schools, unemployment and housing. There have been reports on prostitutes and

transvestites and the way they work next door to the local kindergarten; about food prices and the environment.
The idea has been to let the people talk naturally. There has been little or no editing of the material and the programme sounded and was very amateur.
Each programme lasted about 40 minutes and was broadcast twice on Saturdays at 11 am and 12 noon. The transmitter and prepared tape would be left at a pre-arranged place just before 11 and then all those interested including those who made the programme, would gather in the Place des Abbesses, tune in their transistors and listen.
Sometimes the broadcast was jammed. A tracking station in the park near by at Butte-Chaumont could pinpoint the transmitter sufficiently well to telephone a location to the jamming control on top of the Eiffel Tower.

twice daily to the Gulf, at 10.00 and 18.45

At 10.00 hrs every morning, there are Gulf Air TriStar departures from London Heathrow non-stop to the Gulf. At 18.45 hrs every evening, there are TriStar departures direct to the Gulf via Amsterdam or Paris. On Wednesday and Thursday, there is an additional departure in the evening.

OVERSEAS

Nuclear supplier nations publish new conditions to be imposed on buyer countries

From David Cross
Washington, Jan 12

The United States today made public new rules for overseas sales of nuclear equipment and fuel that are designed to prevent the spread of atomic weapons.

The guidelines, published by the State Department, have been approved by the 15 members of the so-called "Suppliers Club" during two and a half years of negotiations.

The members include the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, France, West Germany, Japan and Canada.

The rules cover the transfer of all nuclear technology, plant and materials, including reactors, enrichment and reprocessing plants, and enriched uranium. Before buying any of these items an importing country will have to agree to certain conditions.

It must give formal Government assurances that the material or plant will not be used to produce any nuclear explosive device for military or so-called peaceful purposes; that there will be protection against sabotage or theft; that

it will agree to international inspection of local and imported material and plant, and that it will not transfer supplies to other countries unless they, too, agree to accept the rules.

In the case of particularly sensitive equipment, transfers will be permitted only with the consent of the original exporter.

If the rules are broken, supplier countries will consult promptly about possible sanctions against the offending country. During these consultations suppliers will stop nuclear exports to the importer involved.

Guidelines were known to have been approved at a meeting of the Suppliers Club in London last September, but the participants agreed to keep the details secret until they had been given to the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna. This final step has now been taken.

The new rules are not as stringent as some countries, particularly the United States, would like. Proposed legislation here would require what are

called "full-scope" safeguards by any country importing nuclear materials or equipment from the United States. Under these a purchasing country would have to permit full international inspection of all its nuclear facilities, irrespective of how or when they were established.

However, the United States will now move further towards this goal. The most reluctant countries in the past have been West Germany and France, which have been eager to make money from overseas nuclear sales.

According to State Department officials here, only five countries with nuclear facilities but not weapons are now closed to international inspection. They are India, Israel, South Africa, Egypt and Argentina. The officials hope that India and Egypt may permit inspections in the not too distant future.

The Suppliers Club will continue to discuss more stringent restrictions and it is hoped here that consumer countries will agree to join the deliberations.

Mr Desai demands weapons halt

From Kuldip Nayar
Delhi, Jan 12

India will agree to full nuclear safeguards if the United States and the Soviet Union not only sign a treaty banning all types of nuclear tests, but also desist from manufacturing new nuclear weapons and accept a reduction and eventual elimination of their stockpiles. Mr Morarji Desai, the Prime Minister, said today.

He was replying to reports that he had changed the stand he took with President Carter on nuclear security during his most recent meeting with Mr Callaghan while the British Prime Minister toured India.

"It is not true that I have told one thing to Mr Carter and another thing to Mr Callaghan. I told both of them exactly the same thing. India, which has decided not to go in for even peaceful tests, should be asked to accept international inspection of its plants by those who have huge arsenals of these weapons and are carrying out frequent tests."

Mr Desai hoped that even China and France ultimately would sign such a treaty. This, however, was not an Indian precondition; it would be

enough if the Soviet Union, the United States and Britain entered into such a treaty.

He denied that India had agreed to safeguards close to the "full-scope" safeguards sought by the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain and the Soviet Union, but he declined to elaborate.

The Prime Minister disclosed that he had told President Carter that the United States was to supply enriched uranium for India's Tarapur power plant for 30 years. Mr Carter, however, thought that new legislation might create difficulties for his Government in carrying out this obligation. Mr Desai said that, in his view, no law could override a contract between two nations.

As to Mr Callaghan's suggestion that India consider allowing the construction of a peaceful flyover India provided no damage was caused, Mr Desai said: "I told him that I do not want to take any risk. I would consider it only if they are prepared to pay compensation for any damage caused to any property on its flight. They said they would compensate for any damage. In that case, I told them that I would consider it."

Asked how soon permission would be given, Mr Desai replied: "Give me time to consider it. I have to discuss it with the relevant authority."

The Indian leader said that Mr Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the foreign minister, was to visit Pakistan soon and that Pakistan's President would be coming to India in the interests of bringing the two countries closer together.

Mr Desai did not think there was any danger that the split in the Congress Party would attract any forces within the Janata Party.

Carter message: Mr Desai said today that he had not, after all, received a "cold and very blunt" letter from President Carter about India's stand on nuclear safeguards. "He has changed it now," Mr Desai told a news conference amid laughter. "I have received a very warm letter of thanks."

Hammami killer spoke of 'brothers'

By Stewart Teodler

The killer of Mr Said Hammami, the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) official murdered in London last week, spoke of "brothers" and "brothers" when he was interviewed by the press.

Mr Hammami was killed by a Palestinian who was identified by the press as "Adel". It is not known to be any form of code.

According to *Al Manar*, which is published in London, the killer introduced himself with these words when he first rang the PLO office a few hours before Mr Hammami was shot. He was told to ring again later. When he did, an appointment was made for an hour later.

The newspaper says that when "Adel" was taken in, Mr Hammami asked him if he was "Brother Adel". The man replied "Yes", pronouncing the word in a manner used by

the PLO. In the past week detectives investigating the killing have been in contact with police in Paris and examined the possibility of a connection between Mr Hammami's death and the murder of Mr Mahmoud Salih in Paris exactly a year ago. Mr Salih, who was shot outside his bookshop, at one time ran the PLO office in Paris but then resigned because of affiliations with the Rejectionist Front.

Editor faces trial over article on India emergency

From Our Correspondent

The Supreme Court heard today a contempt notice brought against Mr S. M. Mujumdar, editor-in-chief of the *Indian Express*, for having published an article saying that "the record of the Supreme Court (during the emergency) is unfortunately very disappointing because Mrs Gandhi (the former Prime Minister) has been in a position to plant and subvert judges except for a few."

The case was adjourned to January 30 after it was made clear by the court that the proceedings would furnish an opportunity for a dialogue on the role of the judiciary, the Bar and the press.

Court confirms conviction of Czech dissidents

Prague, Jan 12

The Czechoslovak Supreme Court today upheld the conviction of four dissidents charged with subversion against the state, but reduced the prison term of one of them by 12 months, dissident sources said.

Ornest, a former theatre director, should serve only two and a half years of his three-and-a-half-year term for smuggling literature to the West. He was the only one who had pleaded guilty at the trial.

The court confirmed a three-year sentence on Mr Jiri Ledeter, a journalist, and suspended jail terms of 14 months on Mr Vlastislav Havel, a playwright, and of 17 months on Mr Frantisek Pavlicek, a former theatre director.

The court ruled that the power struggle in China has still not been settled decisively in

Sinai settlements issue unresolved

From David Watts
Cairo, Jan 12

The leaders of the Israeli and Egyptian delegations to the military committee talks of the Cairo peace conference tried last night to take the heat out of the question of Israeli settlements in Sinai.

At a press conference after their second session, General Ezer Weizman, the Israeli Minister of Defence, and General Muhammad Abdel Ghannay el Gamassi, the Egyptian War Minister, were both at pains to point out that the settlements issue was only one of many being considered in the discussions. But there was no disguising the fact that no progress had been made in this most important area. It was apparent that both sides had confined themselves to statements of their respective positions which have so far appeared irreconcilable.

Egypt has insisted that in any peace agreement all the Israelis in the 20 or so Sinai desert settlements must be removed. Israel has declared that the settlements must remain, and with a military presence to guard them.

Chiding the press for laying so much emphasis on the settlements question, General Gamassi said: "We deal with it (the settlement issue) yesterday and today and we will keep on dealing with it. We are not so far apart. On the contrary we are more determined to bridge the gap between our two positions." General Weizman said: "There is a gap but we believe that the gap can be bridged."

Cambodia is urged to negotiate

From Our Correspondent
Bangkok, Jan 12

The United Nations renewed its call to Cambodia for early talks to settle the fighting on their border.

Mr Vo Doog Giang, the Vietnamese Deputy Foreign Minister, said the talks were being urged by the peoples of both countries. He was addressing a press conference at the conclusion of a visit to Thailand by a Vietnamese delegation led by Mr Nguyen Duy Trinh, the Deputy Prime Minister, and Foreign Minister.

In a reference to Vietnamese refugees in Thailand Mr Giang said that Vietnam was willing to repatriate individually the refugees who have been residing in Thailand for decades. Those who had been in the communist takeover, were "citizens who should not be accepted by other countries in the region."

Thailand and Vietnam said in a joint statement that the difference in the political system of Thailand and Vietnam should not be any obstacle to the further development of amicable relations and fruitful cooperation between the two nations.

They agreed to establish embassies, to exchange ambassadors as soon as possible, as well as trade, economic, scientific and technical delegations. They also agreed to normalize postal and telecommunication services.

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Oil find boost to Ghana

By Kenneth Mackenzie

Oil has been found in Ghana in commercial quantities, General Acheampong, the Head of State, announced at a press conference in Accra called to mark the sixth anniversary of the coup which brought him to power.

If the find is a large one it may well transform Ghana's economy, which has been in serious difficulties because of the high rate of inflation and a serious shortage of foreign exchange.

The news comes at a particularly fortunate time for General Acheampong. He has survived a most difficult sixth year in power. Desperate food

shortages in the early part of the year were followed by student protests, the closing of all three of the country's universities, and a strike by the professional classes.

In a compromise that restored peace the general agreed to a timetable for the return to civilian rule by July 1979.

The first stage in this timetable comes on March 30 when the country holds a referendum on whether the type of civilian rule should be "union government" or "democracy without political parties, which the military regime favours."

The discovery of oil will boost the regime's chances in this.

Passengers on the previous Caribbean cruise had complained that the boiler room trouble had made them late in arriving at many ports. Mr North said this had not happened this time.

"We have not had late arrivals, though we have altered the schedules," he said. "But I understand that it is now finally fixed."

Originally, Cunard said the trouble was nothing to do with the American refit, which was resented bitterly by workers in

Southampton who thought it was a British shipyard. Today, however, Mr North said that it was probably were connected with work done on the ship's main engine.

Tu overhaul had brought engineers to what he called "an excellent condition," which meant they were producing as much power and heat as when they were new. This placed a strain on the boiler, which had to be replaced and valves on the distill began leaking. He believed the suspect parts had now been renewed.

Cunard has not managed to sell the whole three months of the Pacific cruise to the Navy, which has taken over the ship-level services. The ship will leave Southampton on Jan 12 for New York, and will return on Jan 12.

The QE2 is still plagued with the boiler room trouble that has dogged it since its controversial American overhaul. During its second Caribbean cruise since the refit, the ship once again had to make unscheduled stops to take on distill water that its own water distiller was unable to provide.

It is getting dangerously near Monday's start of the liner's widely advertised Pacific and Orient cruise, which is to last three months. Mr William North, Cunard's vice-president for public relations, said today that, after emergency overnight work yesterday at San Juan, Puerto Rico, an unscheduled stop at the port was confident the problem had been solved.

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Cardinal in protest at El Salvador arms sale

By Peter Strafford

Cardinal Humberto Antonio Barrantes, Archbishop of Westminister, has made unusually strong statements of protest against the planned sale of British armoured vehicles to El Salvador. He says he is "distressed and perplexed" that the Government has decided to go ahead with the sale and adds that it is still not late to reconsider it.

The sale, which is worth about £850,000, has aroused sharp criticism from groups concerned about human rights in El Salvador. The military Government has a record of brutal repression of opposition groups, and it is feared that British armoured vehicles—three FV 106 scout cars and 12 Sab armoured cars—could be used for this purpose.

There have also been fears that they might be used to support the Government in fighting against the guerrillas. The British Government has a record of brutal repression of opposition groups, and it is feared that British armoured vehicles—three FV 106 scout cars and 12 Sab armoured cars—could be used for this purpose.

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British firm modernizes first of MiGs

By Our Air Correspondent

The first Soviet-built Egyptian Air Force MiG 21 fighter refurbished by British Aerospace has been tested in simulated combat conditions according to aircraft industry reports in London.

British Aerospace has installed weapons-aiming devices and new navigation systems in the Egyptian MiGs, which are no longer maintained by Soviet technicians because of the rift between Moscow and Cairo.

Syria and Iraq, which both operate MiG 21s, are also reported to have approached British Aerospace for similar work on their aircraft. Although there are about 1,000 MiG aircraft in service in air forces in the Middle East and India.

Britain already has a big contract to supply Egypt with the Swingfire anti-tank missile and will soon sign an agreement to provide Lynx helicopters and manufacturing skills.

British Aerospace said that it is to send a team to train the Egyptian pilots to fly the MiG 21s next week on a four-week sales tour.

The first stop will be Cairo, and the aircraft will then go on to Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Muscat, Kuwait and Jordan.

Managua riots over killing of an editor

Managua, Jan 12

Thousands of demonstrators protesting against the murder of Dr Pedro Joaquín Chamorro, editor of the main opposition newspaper, ran wild through the streets of Managua last night. They stoned police, burnt cars and threw fire-bombs into buildings, including two believed to be owned by the ruling Somoza family.

Tear gas was fired by the National Guard to try to control the crowds. Dr Chamorro, who was shot dead on Tuesday, campaigned for 30 years against the Somoza family, who have controlled Nicaragua for 40 years.

About 30,000 people accompanied his coffin last night to the offices of his newspaper, *La Prensa*, where it will lie in state. They chanted: "Who killed Chamorro?—Somoza."

The National Guard announced yesterday that it had arrested four men responsible for plotting and carrying out the murder. Its spokesmen blamed last night's fire-bombing on terrorists.

Dr Chamorro, aged 53, who was jailed five times and exiled three times under the Somoza family, was the effective opposition leader last September when he became president of the Democratic Union for Liberation, an anti-Somoza coalition including conservatives and communists.—Reuters.

Mr Callaghan pleased with Pakistan's aims

From Richard Wigg
Islamabad, Jan 12

Mr Callaghan, after two hours of talks alone with General Zia today, expressed his confidence in the intentions of Pakistani military rulers to restore a democratic system to the country.

"It is his problem to ensure parties and leaders emerge in such a way that stability can be achieved," the Prime Minister told a press conference here. "If the political leaders accept their responsibility in the matter, then I think Pakistan can be well on the way back to democracy this year."

General Zia himself attended the conference, held in the chief martial law administrator's residence, and the building from which Mr Bhutto, the former Prime Minister, ran the country.

Mr Callaghan said the general had told him that Pakistan was prepared to accept "sympathetic" British insurance companies nationalized in 1972.

The Pakistan Government had agreed to do its best to ensure proper compensation to British firms, fully accepting its obligations.

The assets of the Norwich Union, Pearl and Prudential companies were frozen by the Bhutto Government. The British side, it is understood, has proposed a sum of £3.5m in settlement.

The general had also confirmed that the Pakistan Government intended to go ahead with a joint venture with Massey Ferguson UK to set up a tractor factory and was seeking British commercial assistance in exploiting recent discoveries of natural gas.

Prolonged negotiations have been going on over the tractor factory, which cost £60m and produce about 10,000 tractors a year. The site will probably be Karachi. The British subsidiary of the Canadian multinational firm would have 49 per cent of the equity and Pakistan 51 per cent.

Pakistan has been insisting however on machine tools from China being installed at the plant.

Pakistan already covers the greater part of its industrial and domestic needs from the Soviet field, but new finds in Baluchistan appear to have considerable potential. Mr Callaghan promised he would take back General Zia's new role of the judiciary, the Bar and the press.

Kenya confirms detention of leading novelist

From Our Correspondent
Nairobi, Jan 12

Kenya has officially announced for the first time that it is holding Mr Ngugi wa Thiong'o, the country's best-known novelist, under the Public Security Act.

Mr Ngugi, associate Professor of Literature at Nairobi University and the author of several novels set in Kenya, was taken by police from his home at Limuru, near Nairobi, in the early hours of December 31. They also took away a number of books from his library.

Since then there has been speculation about his fate, but it was only with the official announcement in the Kenya Gazette tonight that his detention was confirmed.

There are four other Kenyans at present held under detention orders—all of them former members of Parliament.

Mr Ngugi's latest novel, *Petals of Blood*, was published last year and was the subject of a big business, greed and corruption on traditional values in Kenya, and has been seen as an attack on Government policies and political figures.

"I show imperialism as a monster preventing all our authentic Kenyan flowers from reaching out into the light," the author has said in explaining the book's title.

Mr Ngugi is a socialist and has visited the Soviet Union several times. He is married with five children.

Peking paper attacks people 'bending with each wind'

From David Bonavia
Hongkong, Jan 12

Signs of a new power struggle in Peking are evident in a recent article in

PARLIAMENT, January 12, 1978

Mr Foot maintains that minister and BSC stuck to rules on disclosure of information

House of Commons

The Government and the British Steel Corporation abided by the rules in the information they supplied to the Select Committee on Nationalized Industries, Mr Michael Foot, leader of the Opposition, said when challenged by MPs.

Mr Foot, who was deputizing in the absence of Mr George Thomas, said that the Government had not asked for a select committee to be set up to look into the steel industry. He said that the Government had not asked for a select committee to be set up to look into the steel industry.

At the conclusion of exchanges during the question time, Mr Foot's statement on next week's business, the Speaker (Mr George Thomas) was pressed for a ruling and he indicated that he would make a statement early next week.

The exchanges began when Mr Michael Foot (Havering, Romford, C) asked Mr Foot why the Government should continue to subsidize British Steel Corporation losses running at £10m a week when the corporation was not producing steel efficiently and riddled with restrictive practices.

Will Mr Foot (he went on) suggest, whether further instruction for the Select Committee on Nationalized Industries to have access to the Corporation's books, even the industry's Secretary (Mr Varley) and the Chairman of the British Steel Corporation so that the House and the public can know whether there has been incompetence, a cover-up or both? (Conservative cheers.)

Mr Foot (Havering, Romford, C) said that the Government had not asked for a select committee to be set up to look into the steel industry. He said that the Government had not asked for a select committee to be set up to look into the steel industry.

Mr Foot—The question of when the Government will agree to set up a select committee to look into the steel industry is a matter of principle. It is not a matter of convenience. It is a matter of principle.

It is normal when a select committee of this character makes a report to the House for the Government to consider it and then make some comments upon it. The House would then be in a position to make a decision on the Government's views on the subject. That is the normal way of doing things.

Mr William Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab)—Will he draw the Prime Minister's attention as a matter of great urgency to the fact that the Government's Select Committee on Nationalized Industries has not yet reported on the steel industry? A great majority of backbench MPs would regard it as

an insult if Government departments, and I know of them, refuse to divulge to select committees documents they thought relevant in their investigations.

If that is to be a constant practice of the Government, the claim to regard to open government is a nonsense. (Conservative cheers.)

Mr Foot—I will not comment on any of the particular instances to which he has referred until I have looked into them. There was no complaint about the non-supply to the select committee of the nationalized steel industry of documents out of the ordinary. The Government and steel corporations have abided exactly by the normal conventions of the House in this regard. We could then have no breach of this convention.

Mr Margaret Thatcher, Leader of the Opposition (Barnet, Finchley, C)—Is not the select committee's report on the steel industry an objective assessment to the House? How can it be that if vital facts and figures are denied to it?

Is it not the fact that select committees are not supposed to have access to confidential information given to them by the Government? It is not a position to make a proper assessment of the steel industry's affairs. It is not a position to make a proper assessment of the steel industry's affairs.

Mr Foot—In the case of the operation of this standing or select committee, the Government has not withheld any information. The Government has not withheld any information. The Government has not withheld any information.

(Conservative shout of "Cover.")

If these conventions are to be altered the House should consider the matter. (Labour cheers.) It may be that the House may wish to alter the conventions of the other side. It may be that the House may wish to alter the conventions of the other side.

Mr Foot—The House will wish to wait to hear what is said in that case. Mr Foot—The House will wish to wait to hear what is said in that case.

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produce papers a contempt of the House? (Conservative cheers.)

Mr Foot—It would be a contempt of the House if, in fact, a motion had been passed by the House and that motion was not accepted.

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Is he saying he refuses to have a debate on this?

Mr Foot—What I am saying is that we should deal with the report of this select committee in the same way as we would deal with the reports of any other select committee. It is a matter of principle.

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Government want a partnership administration in Ireland

The Government were committed to developing a system of government in Northern Ireland in which all sections of the community could participate on a fair basis and in which the rights of all citizens were protected. Mr Roy Mason, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said during question time exchanges about the proposed partnership administration.

Mr Mason added that this meant establishing a system in which the Government and the community would work together to develop a partnership administration which reflected the interests of all communities.

He also said it was Government and Conservative Opposition policy not to allow amendments for those criminals sentenced to jail in Northern Ireland who have been responsible for deaths, murders, crimes and bombings in the province.

Mr Mason, in his main reply, said—Further exploratory talks with my officials started last week. I can understand that the police would wish to appear in the talks with caution and would not wish to force the pace. I hope that talks within the framework I have set out will be a success. My door is always open.

I believe that my framework for the talks provides the best opportunity to make a partnership administration of Northern Ireland. The return of substantial power and responsibility to locally elected representatives.

Within this framework, I envisage such representative extending control over the major government services, other than law and order, and having a consultative role on legislative matters.

Mr William van Straubenzee (Wokingham, C)—The untimely intervention of the Taoiseach, in diplomatic terms, was that of an ecclesiastically subliminal elephant. There seems to be, particularly at present, a feeling that when Mr Mason uses the term "power sharing" he is talking about a partnership administration. Is that the case?

Mr Mason—I have never used the words "power sharing". I have always insisted that the partnership administration of Northern Ireland is a partnership between the Government and the community. It is a partnership between the Government and the community.

Power sharing does tend to be taken in Northern Ireland as meaning the particular system under the 1973 Act, and the Government are in no way committed to this or any other system.

Mr John Farr (Harrow, C)—At times Mr Mason gives the impression that he is talking about a partnership administration. Is that the case? Mr Mason—I have never used the words "power sharing". I have always insisted that the partnership administration of Northern Ireland is a partnership between the Government and the community. It is a partnership between the Government and the community.

Mr Mason—I do not see any reason why I should take that indication when I have already said before the House that the Government are in no way committed to this or any other system.

and the talks are going on. They have not broken down. Mr Mason—The Government have thought that the intervention of the Taoiseach in the talks is going on and there is no reason why they should not continue.

Mr John Blease-Davison, an Opposition spokesman on Northern Ireland (Epping Forest, C)—In commenting with appropriate asperity on Mr Mason's inclusion in the partnership administration, Mr Mason said that he was not committed to any particular arrangement for Northern Ireland. He said that he was not committed to any particular arrangement for Northern Ireland.

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Back from Brussels for farming debate

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Leader of the Opposition (Barnet, Finchley, C), after the business for next week had been announced, pointed out that the Government had specifically asked for a debate on agriculture next Thursday, before the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Mr. John Gummer, C) went to Brussels for the Council of Ministers' meeting.

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Home Secretary rejects alternative vote system for European direct elections

An amendment proposing that the system, rather than the simple majority system, be used for the elections to the European Parliament, was rejected by the Home Secretary (Mr. Roy Mason, C) during question time.

Mr Mason said that the Government had specifically asked for a debate on agriculture next Thursday, before the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Mr. John Gummer, C) went to Brussels for the Council of Ministers' meeting.

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Next week

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be: Monday: Civil Aviation Bill and Shipbuilding Redundancy Payments Bill, second reading.

Tuesday: Further progress in committee on the Scotland Bill.

Wednesday: Transport Bill, second reading; Partnership Agreements Bill, remaining stages.

Thursday: Private Members' Bills: Employment Protection Bill, Companies Bill, and Civil Liability (Contribution) Bill, second reading.

Friday: Medical Bill, report stage.

Saturday: Debates on tanker safety and pollution prevention, on tourism, and on child minding and foster parents.

Sunday: Debate on the press.

Ulster inquiry

During exchanges on the Northern Ireland Inquiry, Mr. John Blease-Davison, an Opposition spokesman on Northern Ireland (Epping Forest, C) asked—Will we be informed soon of the terms of the inquiry which the housing executive (HRA) asked for 'no certain serious allegations about money going astray, and even passing into the hands of the IRA'?

Reverberations of Mr Lynch's comments

Total reiteration of Flannery's full policy at this time by Mr. Lynch, Prime Minister of the Irish Republic, caused many reverberations in the House of Commons, and the United Kingdom, said during question time.

Mr. Lynch—There is an even greater need for increasing the effectiveness of the security forces in view of the irresponsible encouragement given to terrorists by Mr. Lynch last week.

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Helping the disabled get to work

Mr. John Grant, Under Secretary for Employment, said in a written reply: I am informed by the Manpower Services Commission that the Government are considering the possibility of providing a small number of employees severely disabled people who experience serious difficulties in getting to work but do not receive mobility allowance.

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Wartime interceptors of enemy messages can shed a little of their reticence

Mr. John Parker (Barking, Dagenham, Lab) asked the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs (Mr. Geoffrey Howe, C) whether it was possible to release the records of intercepts of enemy messages which have been released in this way will enable a better historical judgement to be made of the part that intelligence played in the conduct of the war.

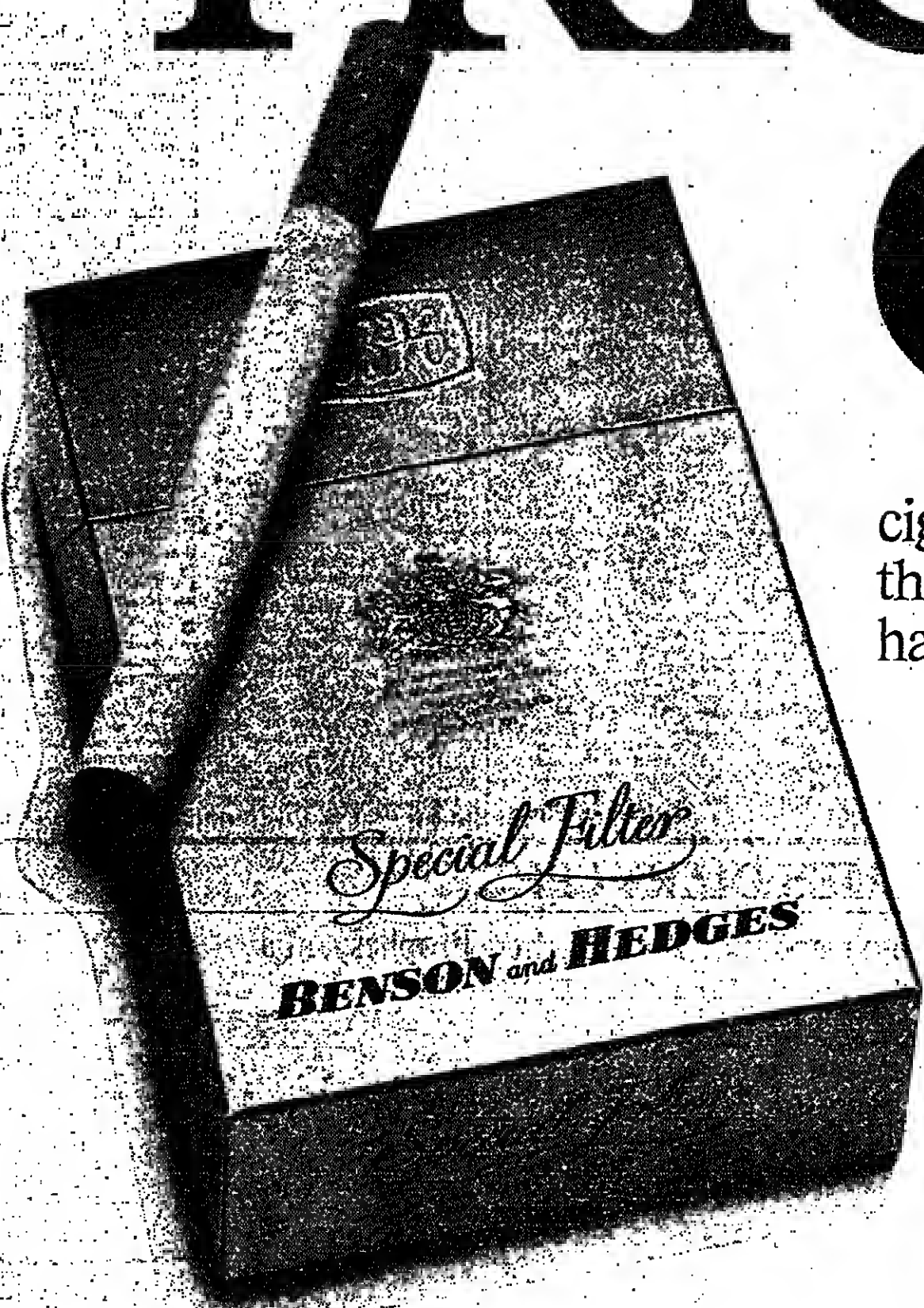
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NO INCREASE IN THE PRICE OF GOLD.

If you've found the price of your usual cigarettes has risen rather dramatically, remember that the price of Benson and Hedges King Size has remained the same.



56^P for twenty.

Recommended price correct at time of printing.

MIDDLE TAR As defined by H.M. Government.
H.M. Government Health Departments' WARNING:
CIGARETTES CAN SERIOUSLY DAMAGE YOUR HEALTH

In search of the real India

nation that ignorance exists which draws our thoughts back to India. It is, rather, a sense that India has solved in her culture the problem that has plagued Europe since Christianity became the official religion of the Roman Empire, and that problem is our domination by time, the timelessness of India is, once a recognition of the eternal nature of creation and assertion that the timelessness that consists of absorption of the individual self out in the universe. Surely the concept of Nirvāṇa could have arisen nowhere in India? And surely there more sense in Professor Cole than in Professor S

ner 7
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highly esteemed English
is now seriously ill co
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Nowhow to lay a mo-
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carpet has been the problem
India since independence.
Anglo-India was concerned
most to prepare the way.
It is no use wishing our
vicarious nostalgia on to
country; Gandhi's spin-
wheel will not solve
problems any more than it.
Yet India has just demon-
strated that her people can
honor her ancient disregard
the things of this world
a healthy understanding of
necessity of throwing out
of political rascals at the

last moment at which through them out would have been possible, an event which admirably summed up by *Economist* in these words: "Never again will anyone be able to claim that democracy is unsuited to any developing country, or that the poor

The only way to find out
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Taj Mahal, I believe that
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Besides, the conference has
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I can hardly not call on so
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I would not be the first ti
that India had taught wisa
to Europe," and certainly
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● In a recent column, referred to the Radio announcers, and quoted charming joke one of them uttered the other morning. I said it was Victor Hallam but he insists that it was not, so I am happy to make this clear and to the announcer who did make the joke to accept the compliment in his place.

THE TIMES DIARY/ PHS

out" about India in a ma
of days? Where does
start? If I simply stop th
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 nothing, I shall go to India
 I do nothing, apart from
 ing part in the conference
 it taking me there, but see

Taj Mahal, I believe that shall not be disappointing. Besides, the conference it promises to be interesting, and I shall be able to call on so many of those admirable people I fought Mrs. Gandhi in the courts and in the election, with whom I was in touch during the Emergency. Perhaps I shall even bring back to you advice on how we, too, at the time comes, can steel ourselves to resist tyranny. I would not be the first to think that India had taught wisdom to the world and that the last time she will surprise us.

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I read out bits of the bio to the Met Office in Bracknell, confirmed that given the conjunction of the free weather conditions envisaged in the book, Mr Doyle's cal- culations might just be possible in one deal, however, a Mr. official favoured Mr Doyle's fi- ttitious game warning, which serves as a foreword. "Wol- north-west, veering westerly" it says. "That's a bit of laugh," the Met man chuckles gustily. "You might as well say: 'The car reversed into the wall in front of it. The wor- is 'backing', not 'veering'."

Pally Pally jazz

Tonight's Jazz Band Ball at Alexandra Palace (come 10.15) will be a 5 p.m. to nine-night in Haringey Council's first tentative step on the path of support for traditional an- mainstream jazz and music therefore, be commended. I enough tickets are sold, the arts will be subsidizing their parts in that bo-own, rather than the reverse, which seems desirable.

The Humphrey Lyttelton Band with Bruce Turner will be supported by the (local an- amateur) Crouch End All Stars with Wally Fawkes, all the known nowadays as "Travis" the cartoonist. The musician- and the Haringey Arts Council intend that it should be a fun- evening. There will be a buffet

with real ale to wash it down.
Tickets are £1.75 at the door



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SPENDING AND THE NORTH SEA

This year's White Paper on public spending has particular importance for two reasons. The exercise has been conducted against the background of a strong, sound and financial situation, thus allowing the Government to plan without external pressures for the first time in years. And it covers plans for the period up to 1981-82, by which time North Sea oil revenue will be available to the government of the day in substantial quantities.

The figures produced in the White Paper follow a year in which public spending will have risen significantly, below the levels expected in last year's forecast. Thus the claim that public spending is only expected to grow next year, by 2.2 per cent, in real terms is more than somewhat misleading. For that percentage figure is based not on the likely outcome for this year, but on the higher and unfulfilled forecasts made a year ago.

This should not, however, detract from the fact that the whole balance of public spending is improved. For the first year since the beginning of this decade, the proportion of the economy's output accounted for by public expenditure has dropped. The seemingly inexorable rise in that proportion under government of both political parties has, because of the 1976 financial crisis, been brought under control.

The central thrust of this White Paper is that over the next four years that proportion should continue to decline. For, by setting the trend of growth in spending at about 2 per cent a year, the Government is indicating for that period at least that public spending should grow at less than the rate of expansion of the economy as a whole. If the continuing control of spending keeps the actual totals within these planned figures, resources would as a result be available for substantial cuts in taxation and for increases in consumer demand and higher investment by business in plant and machinery.

It remains to be seen whether the mechanisms for control are effective. For, as every Chief Secretary to the Treasury knows, the pressures by spending ministers to increase the scope of their programmes and size of their budgets is very strong, even when the Government as a whole is agreed on the need for restraint. This White Paper, however, holds out hope that restraint will be effective. In the first place it is clear that the Government has not in total taken on any substantial volume of new or expanded spending programmes in the period since sterling began its recovery. There is, therefore, no already built-in engine for increases in the volume of expenditure. Secondly, a substantial part even of the planned 2 per cent a year increase in spending is in the

form of an unallocated contingency reserve. This is budgeted to increase in real terms almost threefold, between now and 1981-82.

The practical and political effect of this technicality is that up to £2,000m of expenditure, although budgeted for three years hence, has not been allocated to any programme. Any Minister wanting his share of that element still has to make his department's case. Any new policies, or expansions of existing policies, will be counted against that contingency reserve and would then still be accommodated within the planned total growth of spending.

Finally, if at some future date the total level of planned spending had to be cut for whatever reason, the Government would find it far less politically difficult to reduce the size of the allowance for the general contingency reserve than in the past it has been to "cut" existing programmes to which individual departments and ministers are already committed.

The White Paper, therefore, sets a framework for the next four years within which a major reduction in the burden of direct taxation would be possible. It ensures at least that public spending does not preempt the resources which North Sea oil will be making available for the regeneration of the British economy.

The way the Gaullists took the lion's share of seats and to argue that the first ballot should be used as a "primary" within the majority, as on the left. Now the boot is on the other foot and it is M Chirac who wants "primaries" in most if not all constituencies while M Giscard d'Estaing has been trying to impose arbitration in advance by his prime minister, M Barre.

The difference is that M Giscard d'Estaing does not have the authority over his majority that de Gaulle and Pompidou had before him. When it comes to electoral tactics, M Chirac and the Gaullists simply refuse to take orders from him. So this time there will be "primaries" whether he likes it or not, and all M Barre has been able to do is pick the best non-Gaullist candidate for each constituency from among the other majority parties. Meanwhile the Communists are not even promising to withdraw their candidates on the second ballot where they come in behind the Socialist. But this is a bluff which the Socialists do not take very seriously. The tradition of "republican discipline" is so strong on the French left that the Communists would make themselves intensely unpopular if they broke it, thereby allowing the right a landslide victory. The logic of the system calls for a straight fight on the second ballot, and in all probability that is what we shall still see.

insisting on the right of the different parties to preserve their separate identities during the election, and afterwards to get together and argue out the government programme, if not the composition of the government itself.

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merits. But there can be only one opinion about the contemporary and future public interest attaching to the painting. It was presented by Parliament to Parliament's most illustrious member to mark his eightieth birthday. Photographs of it and the many preliminary studies which survive show that it was a work of honesty and force, a portrait of a warrior in his old age. Its destruction is a great misfortune.

Lady Spencer-Churchill's executors briefly supply a motive for the deed. It was destroyed on her initiative before Sir Winston's death because she was distressed to see how much the painting, which they both disliked, preyed on his mind. There is no occasion to pass moral judgment on her action, especially when so little is publicly known about the state of their feelings in the matter. It is sufficient to lament the loss of a document in oils of high value to this generation and even more for generations to come.

Buying the right to photocopy

From Mr Philip Larkin
Sir, There are many persons better qualified than I to defend the recommendations of the Whitford Committee, and I hope they will do so, but I should like to make two comments on the issues raised by your correspondents on licensed photocopying.

First of all, it is a mistake to assume that the bulk of such copying is done by libraries. Any university librarian will know that to refuse to make a copy for a reader on the grounds that to do so would infringe the Copyright Act 1956 is met with a shrug of the shoulders and the comment "Then I'll get it done in the department", and that in point of fact many more copies are made in university departments than in university libraries. Since, generally speaking, librarians are scrupulous observers of copyright and their readers are not, we have no reason to suppose that such copying is confined to universities.

Secondly, it would be equally mistaken to suppose that such copying is confined to universities. Any school, firm, office, institution or individual that can afford the rental of a copying machine is in fact free to copy what they like as they like, and in such a situation it is idle to expect the provisions of the Act to be observed. Whether or not these provisions were realistic at the time they were made law (and most libraries will, I think, have reservations on this point), it has become quite impossible to enforce them in the context of the reprographic explosion, and what we now have to decide is since copyright owners can no longer be protected from reprography, whether or not they should be compensated for it.

As I understand the Whitford Report, it does not deny anyone the right to copy copyright material; it simply says that such a right must be paid for by the licensing of copying machines. It is never agreeable to have to pay for something that hitherto has been available free of charge (hence the deplorable delay over the Public Lending Right). It is certainly true, as your correspondent says, that arranging this has yet to be proposed: the Whitford Committee did not attempt to do so. But unless the concept of copyright is to be totally abandoned in the context of reprography—as at present it virtually is—some satisfactory way of compensating all responsible librarians, readers, publishers and other individuals concerned to co-operate in putting the Whitford Committee's recommendations into practice as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully,
P. A. LARKIN.
The Brynmor Jones Library,
The University of Hull,
January 10.

The MoT test

From Mr A. T. V. Johnson
Sir, Re: the MoT test. In two cases recently, once in your leader, you have mentioned me by name in comment arising out of the recent Drive exercise with a deceptively car when they failed in 21 attempts to get a test certificate (V120).

In their continued criticism of the test, they appear to confuse the V121 and V122 forms. This is very misleading to the public when thousands of these forms are issued every day and the error should be corrected. This I invite them to do.

As for claims of bribery, I repeat the observation I made the last time this claim was made. "Please supply the evidence to support the claim, because, if true, the guilty should be promptly and severely dealt with."

I agree that the vast majority of reported accidents are caused by driver fault but these can be more serious than would otherwise be the case because of car defects. Unreported accidents (therefore the part of no statistics) can also be wholly or partly caused by mechanical defects. This damage is needlessly caused and costs arise from the need to repair cars and the vehicle being in better condition.

The judge and the immigrants

From Sir Francis Lowe
Sir, I happened to be in court number 12 at the Central Criminal Court during most of the summing up by His Honour Judge McKinnon, QC, in the case of John Kingsley Read. Although the judge commented strongly on the quality of the evidence led for the prosecution, it appeared to me that the judge was not so much displaying bias against any particular racial group but endeavouring to distinguish between the long established right of a member of the community to speak freely in public urging his views upon anybody prepared to listen to him and the necessary elements of the criminal offence charged. The judge seemed to be telling the jury that it would depend on the circumstances surrounding the words he used whether a speaker was intending to incite race hatred or not.

Under the section of the Act which Mr Read was charged the prosecution had to prove that Mr Read actually intended to incite race hatred with the words he used. The section in question has been criticised for its inadequate formulation of the necessary intent to be proved before the offence could be established and, it is interesting to note, has been replaced by the Race Relations Act 1976.

Yours faithfully,
FRANCIS LOWE,
4 New Square,
Lincoln's Inn, WC2,
January 10.

From Mr Indra Kulthake
Sir, As a lawyer working for Southall Rights, a voluntary organisation run on an entirely voluntary basis which gives free advice on legal and welfare rights and which was born out of the tragic murder of an Asian youth in Southall referred to by Mr Read as "one down and a million to go", may I be allowed simply to say on behalf of the silent majority of us voluntary workers in the cause of better race relations that the words of Judge McKinnon do not make our work easy.

Yours faithfully,
INDRA KULTHAKI,
2 Stone Buildings,
Lincoln's Inn, WC2,
January 11.

Explaining psychic effects

From Mr I. D. Evers
Sir, Mr Levin's comments (January 6) about Brian Inglis' book *Natural and Supernatural*, do not do him credit. The achievements of today's science are not the result of accepting strange events as supernatural but of always searching for a rational explanation.

Kuhn, in his book *The structure of scientific revolutions*, has shown how and why the scientific paradigms, ie, the theories, models and procedures employed by scientists at any time are very powerful. They cannot be overturned by a mere collection of unconnected observations of events which seem to contradict them. When Mr Levin implies that these happenings cannot be explained as fakes, hallucinations, chance, etc, or by powers and senses already known to be possessed by human beings, he is dogmatically begging the question at issue. Perhaps they can be thus explained, perhaps not.

Until we can be absolutely sure that they cannot be explained with the help of knowledge and theories we have so far, we must employ Occam's razor and not make unnecessary assumptions. Where neglect of this principle can lead is shown by the example of the books of von Daniken, who finds it necessary to postulate visits by extraterrestrial beings to explain matters which can be explained in much simpler ways.

Uri Geller, whose feats I have repeatedly admired on the television screen, has a very able scientist on his side in Professor Taylor. If he or other scientists come up with a good hypothesis to explain what cannot be explained with our present hypotheses, special tests together with our background knowledge of the world as we know it may well decide matters. It may be regrettable that there are scientists who, like the cardinals who refused to look through Galileo's telescope, do not want to examine some of these strange happenings. But this should not allow Mr Levin to suggest that a philosopher like Ayer may be secretly afraid to ask certain philosophical questions (or is his suggestion of fear only applicable to

somebody whose attacks on the supernatural are violent?). Mr Levin's remarks about the unpredictability of our actions and the hint that the universe may be unpredictable are very ambiguous. Is he suggesting unpredictability in principle? For the whole universe, or only in certain areas? Are we to give up then the rational enterprise of science? Has Mr Levin thought about the consequences of intermingling rational explanations with bits of belief in the supernatural?

Yours faithfully,
I. D. EVERS,
24 Priory Road,
Edgubaston,
Birmingham,
January 7.

From Dr S. F. Walker
Sir, Bernard Levin's puff for the paranormal (January 6) was very disappointing. May I suggest that he has a look at what Hume said of Miracles? Any evidence for the supernatural must always be weighed against two factors: "the unquenchable appetite for falsehood and fable" which has been sufficient to produce the enormous volume of known frauds, misdeeds and delusions; and the essential improbability of anything that has earned the paranormal label.

Clearly Mr Levin, along with the rest of the gazing populace, is ready to receive greedily whatever soothes superstition and promotes wonder (and sales?). But, too testimony is sufficient to establish the paranormal unless the testimony be of such a kind that its falsehood would be more para-normal than the fact which it endeavours to establish. A passion for the miraculous seems to be one of the most reliable types of human foolishness and delusions. A consistent and industriously compiled catalogue of prodigious events should therefore impress only the most gullible. Is it conceivable that these include one of your distinguished colonialists?

Yours faithfully,
S. F. WALKER, Lecturer,
Department of Psychology,
Birkbeck College,
Malet Street, WC1,
January 7.

The right in Europe

From Mr Scott Hamilton
Sir, Geoffrey Smith suggests that "in most western countries there are not encouraging times for the more right wing parties" ("A natural governing party", January 5). If by that he means non-socialist parties, he has little substance with which to back his argument.

Less than half of the present governments of nations in the Council of Europe are dominated by socialist parties, while in elections that took place in 1977, non-socialist governments were formed in five instances out of eight. Although the Norwegian election produced a tiny socialist majority,

the Norwegian Conservative Party emerged as the strongest opposition party and polled its best result since before the war. In other western democracies, there is scarcely a socialist government in power, and the recent Australian elections were far from discouraging for non-socialists.

Mr Smith would do well to remember that it was not so long ago that social democracy had come to be regarded as the natural governing force of Western Europe. The picture today tells quite a different story.

Yours faithfully,
SCOTT HAMILTON, Chairman,
European Democrat Students,
32 South Square, SW1,
January 5.

Problems posed by spina bifida

From Professor J. H. Edwards
Sir, Mr Kennedy (letter, January 9), while wishing to bring within the scope of general principles the particular problems posed by spina bifida, seems to regard this as a disorder sufficiently uniform to permit such principles, and distinct from that large class of developmental and other accidents in which it is possible to replace natural death by unnatural life.

In fact spina bifida extends from small harmless lumps to gross and obviously irreversible incapacity of both brain and spinal cord. When spina bifida becomes rare, and the wide variations in incidence by place and time give every hope that prevention will be possible, these moral problems will continue unchanged.

While therapy cannot readily be removed from the responsibility of those technically competent to undertake it, "the test whereby the condition may be diagnosed in utero", to which Mr Kennedy refers with hope does indeed present problems in ethics and in law, and is well suited to informed public discussion and to the clarifications usual in letters "from lawyers".

The test, which is done on blood at 16 to 18 weeks, a time when blood is not normally taken, defines a group of women who are either normal, or have twins, or have a foetus with spina bifida, in that order of frequency. A further test is then done on those women without twins; this test is not without risk to the foetus who is usually normal.

While these tests can be done with only a small minority of those so evicted being normal in some leading centres, the average standards of ultrasound examination and of amniocentesis are such that twins are often missed and the foetal mortality from amniocentesis is probably about one per cent. Non-fatal injuries are very rare. A routine scheme, which did not allow detailed documentation of all evicted foetuses, would, of course, destroy the data on which prevention would ultimately be based.

These, indeed, are difficult problems. It is lawful to expose a woman to a test without her knowledge and without ascertaining that she is not unconditionally opposed to abortion? Who is responsible if twins are missed using an inadequate machine? Is the humane necessity of not divulging errors in the relative value of professional integrity? Has a citizen the right to be ignorant of knowledge that cannot be applied?

Spina bifida presents many problems; the most tragic follow birth: a most difficult precede it. Yours faithfully,
J. H. EDWARDS,
Professor of Human Genetics,
The Infant Development Unit,
Queen Elizabeth Medical Centre,
Edgubaston Birmingham.

Skateboarding

From Mr Sydney Ripley
Sir, I compliment you upon your leader on skateboarding. "Two Million Whiz Kids" (January 7). You seem to catch the general gallery of the whole scene. This is truly a real fast sport, spanning stationary art-form to sheer speed, laced with the glamour of skiing on sea or mountains.

More mundanely, here I list our facilities in the GLC parks. 1. At all our parks, except the smallest, skateboarding is permitted under the general supervision of the park keepers, who are largely versed in first aid.

M CHIRAC'S FULL SLATE OF FRIENDS

The French election campaign has now started, and all intents and purposes it will not, after all, be a straight fight between left and right but, at least until the first ballot on March 12, a four-cornered struggle. The initial contest will be between the Communists and the Socialists on the left, and between the Gaullists and the other parties of the present parliamentary majority on the right.

This arrangement will produce a clash of paradoxes. On the right the quarrel is essentially between the Gaullists, led by M Jacques Chirac, and President Giscard d'Estaing. The Gaullists have not forgiven M Giscard d'Estaing, as a non-Gaullist, for usurping the heritage of de Gaulle—though ironically they have forgiven M Chirac for helping him do it. One of the things, they dislike about the President is his constant (if so far one-sided) flirtation with the Socialist Party and biting at an alternative centre-left majority.

Yet the logic of the system has obliged him to adopt the Gaullian tactics of appointing a prime minister without political colour other than loyalty to himself, and of insisting on the duty of the "majority" to unite around the programme defined by himself and by the government; while the Gaullists have found themselves adopting the very un-Gaullian attitude of

insisting on the right of the different parties to preserve their separate identities during the election, and afterwards to get together and argue out the government programme, if not the composition of the government itself.

On the left the Communists accuse the Socialists of secretly yielding to M Giscard d'Estaing's blandishments, and abandoning the common programme of the left agreed in 1972. Yet in public the Socialists lost no opportunity to proclaim their loyalty to that programme, their unshakable belief in unity of the left, and their total rejection of any centrist alliance. To any objective observer it is clear that it is the Communists, the first proposers and principal architects of the union of the left, who have now deliberately picked a quarrel with the Socialists, presumably because the Socialists turned out to be gaining much more from the union than the Communists themselves and have even replaced the Communists as the dominant left-wing party.

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THE LOSS OF A MASTERPIECE

A portrait of the greatest Englishman of his time by an artist who is arguably the best living English portraitist is an object of outstanding historical importance, to use the administrator's phrase. No official committee, with the function of identifying works to be classed as of artistic or historical importance would hesitate to include it.

There are contradictory opinions about the portrait's likeness and about its aesthetic

merits. But there can be only one opinion about the contemporary and future public interest attaching to the painting. It was presented by Parliament to Parliament's most illustrious member to mark his eightieth birthday. Photographs of it and the many preliminary studies which survive show that it was a work of honesty and force, a portrait of a warrior in his old age. Its destruction is a great misfortune.

Lady Spencer-Churchill's executors briefly supply a

Applying the Land Fund

From Mr Michael Watson
Sir, I share Mr Bole's hope (January 7) that the use of the Land Fund may be extended to the provision of endowments for houses given to the National Trust. Certainly this would overcome a major obstacle facing owners contemplating such a course. It is worth pointing out, however, that this would make colossal inroads into the already depleted capital of the fund, and even if it was restored to its original value of £50m, I doubt whether it would be sufficient to endow all that is worth preserving of the national heritage now being maintained by the private sector.

I know from my postbag and from my personal experience how badly the country's resources of inflation are being crushed, particularly the smaller and less well endowed but none the less important houses and I fear that Badesley Champs may be only one of many houses to be offered to the nation without endowment in the next few years.

At best the Land Fund can only be a safety net, and cannot be expected to protect the heritage as a whole. This can only be achieved by slowing up the private sector. What is needed is determined action on two fronts. Firstly protection from capital taxes must be extended to capital needed for maintenance on the same basis as is already afforded to the house itself. Secondly, the rule which requires the prospect of a commercial profit being made before a relief against income tax is allowable for houses open to the public must be waived. John Young's article in *Osborne* (January 7) shows only too clearly the diffi-

culties of covering costs with visitors income however popular or well run a house may be.

I believe that both these steps could be taken now with general support from all three major political parties and would go a long way towards restoring confidence before the situation becomes irretrievable.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL WATSON, Chairman,
Taxation Sub Committee,
Historic Houses Association,
Rockingham Castle,
Market Harborough,
Leicestershire,
January 8.

New look at cities

From Mr Reginald Eyre, MP for Birmingham, Hall Green (Conservative) and Mr Anthony Steen, MP for Liverpool, Wavertree (Conservative)
Sir, David Smith is right in calling, in his article on January 3, for a new look at our cities, and in highlighting some of the burning problems from his London experience.

From our knowledge of life in some of the great industrial conurbations, we believe the worst ravages in our cities have been caused by politicians and planners over-emphasizing the importance of buildings at the expense of the needs of people. This is well illustrated by the disregard shown by them for the quality of life for those millions of families forced by the demolition of older houses to move to the vast impersonal council estates which have sprung up in such large numbers within our major towns and cities.

Such vast estates are the biggest social dividers of all. Here tenants are segregated from others within their own city by a uniformity which subjects them to a tyranny of bureaucratic restrictions—over repairs, transfers of tenancies, and even the choice of colour of their front door.

The consequence of this system is that people experience a sense of personal helplessness and become increasingly apathetic. To break up these vast council estates and to lessen the grip of officialdom would be a first step towards rekindling a neighbourhood spirit—and building happier and more stable communities in our cities. No extra money is needed to create smaller units of organization in which people can more easily relate to one another. This, accompanied by the redistribution of responsibilities and resources to the people themselves, could help restore pride in the local area and encourage self-help within the community.

Lack of neighbourly care and concern is endemic where people have neither stake in their houses, nor control over their local environment. The present Government policy takes no account of such matters. Wordy statements and dribbles of money concentrated on the inner areas of a handful of our cities will barely touch the wide range of human problems which are worsening in so many of our industrial areas.

The neglect of family housing in twilight areas and the failure to improve the system governing the lives of millions of council tenants are at the root of continued urban decline.

We are, Sir, yours, etc,
REGINALD EYRE,
ANTHONY STEEN,
House of Commons,
January 5.

Fleeing the country

From Mr Antony Jones
Sir, I refer to your leader (January 10) entitled "The balance of society". In it you state that "all socialist governments create exiles, known as dissidents when they come from the Soviet Union and tax exiles when they come from Sweden or Britain; for some men the collar is too tight. I am being over-sensitive but this seems to be at the very least an unfortunate comparison. In one case we have the dissident who is attempting to escape from persecution. It is grotesque and uncaring to compare this courageous belief in freedom with the activities of the tax exile who leaves a country thinking not of freedom but of the state of his bank balance!"

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY JONES,
St Chad's College,
Durham University,
Durham,
January 10.

The right in Europe

From Mr Scott Hamilton
Sir, Geoffrey Smith suggests that "in most western countries there are not encouraging times for the more right wing parties" ("A natural governing party", January 5). If by that he means non-socialist parties, he has little substance with which to back his argument.

Less than half of the present governments of nations in the Council of Europe are dominated by socialist parties, while in elections that took place in 1977, non-socialist governments were formed in five instances out of eight. Although the Norwegian election produced a tiny socialist majority,

the Norwegian Conservative Party emerged as the strongest opposition party and polled its best result since before the war. In other western democracies, there is scarcely a socialist government in power, and the recent Australian elections were far from discouraging for non-socialists.

Mr Smith would do well to remember that it was not so long ago that social democracy had come to be regarded as the natural governing force of Western Europe. The picture today tells quite a different story.

Yours faithfully,
SCOTT HAMILTON, Chairman,
European Democrat Students,
32 South Square, SW1,
January 5.

Digging up the road

From Mr G. P. Barnard
Sir, I've been trying for years to coordinate electricity, gas, water, sewers and telephone authorities but I somehow can't seem to arrange for their mains to wear out all at the same time.

Neither can I seem to arrange the demand for their products to be such as to justify additional mains all at the same time. I can, however, arrange for them all to be dug up at the same time but I promised Sir Peter Tennant (January 7) that I haven't ventured into Haslemere recently!

As the prime purpose of roads, of course, to provide a long, easily accessible strip of land to lay mains and pipes in, I hope that I shall be able to coordinate those few occasions when they are all allowed to pass along!

Yours faithfully,
PETER BARNARD,
Chief Technical Officer,
Borough of Crewe and Nantwich,
Wellington House,
Delamere Street,
Crewe.

Stewards must wait for Edwardes meeting to know Leyland's future

By R. W. Shakespeare

Fears of an expected stormy confrontation between senior shop stewards from British Leyland car plants and top management men failed to materialize yesterday, nor was there much information about the plans being drawn up by Mr Michael Edwardes for the company's future.

The two most noticeable features about the meeting of the Leyland Cars Council at Haseley Manor, in Warwickshire—British Leyland's staff training college—were tight security measures which prevented all but those attending the meeting from entering the premises, and the introduction to stewards of Mr Ray Horrocks, the new deputy managing director.

The 15 shop stewards attending the council—Leyland's top tier of its recently created worker participation system—appeared to be reconciled to the fact that they must wait for another meeting next week with Mr Edwardes to learn details of his proposals.

The council meeting, one of a series of regular talks between management and senior stewards, was chaired by Mr Derek Whitaker, managing director of Leyland Cars, who has already announced his resignation and will leave the company at the end of the month.

A Leyland management spokesman said: "This meeting will not be concerned in any way with future plans that are now the subject of so much speculation. The talks will be concerned with the normal functions of the council."

Meanwhile one union convenor, Mr Eddie McGarry, from the Triumph car plant in Coventry, called for a meeting of senior stewards from all Leyland car plants to be held in the future in the hands of Mr Edwardes he should be convinced.

Credit brokers urged to apply for licences

By Our Commercial Editor

Anybody arranging credit for a customer, from door-to-door salesman to motor dealer, must be licensed from July next, the Office of Fair Trading said yesterday. The OFT urged early applications for licences—and at latest by April—to avoid delays in getting a licence.

Credit brokerage is the last big sector of the credit field to be brought within the scope of licensing. Anybody is a broker who helps a customer to get credit from a finance house, bank or other source of credit.

Mr Tony Scott, Director of Consumer Credit at the OFT, is anxious that many people will not realize the role as credit brokers. Typically in the category are shopkeepers, furniture dealers, suppliers of electrical goods or office equipment, and estate agents, mortgage brokers and accountants.

Even travelling salesmen selling goods like double glazing, central heating units or encyclopedia can be credit brokers.

Mr Scott gave this warning about unlicensed brokering: "Not only will it be illegal but credit arrangements entered into as a result of an introduction by an unlicensed broker will be unenforceable. Consequently, finance houses are unlikely to accept business from unlicensed dealers."



Mr Tony Scott, Director of Consumer Credit at the Office of Fair Trading.

Credit brokers who call on people in their homes will have to get a special authorization from the OFT.

The main exclusion from licensing for the time being will be those arranging credit for £30 or less. Under the Consumer Credit Act, a credit broker is defined as anybody making introductions for credit of not more than £5,000 although in the case of house purchase finance there is no upper limit.

Anybody merely accepting credit cards or trading checks is not a credit broker.

Wholesale prices up 0.5pc in US

From Frank Vogl
US Economics Correspondent
Washington, Jan 12

Wholesale prices in the United States rose sharply in December, but an even more disturbing factor for the economy's outlook was the publication today of a new government report showing that businesses plan a slower rate of price increases in 1977.

The Department of Labour reported that wholesale prices, seasonally adjusted, rose by 0.5 per cent last month, after an 0.7 per cent increase in November. Wholesale prices increased 5.9 per cent in 1977, but the trend suggests that inflation is now accelerating.

This impression is confirmed by the department's index of finished goods prices, which registered a gain of 0.7 per cent in December, after an increase of 0.4 per cent in November. The index rose by 6.6 per cent last year.

The Department of Commerce reported that its survey of business spending showed that investment in plant and equipment was likely to grow by 10.1 per cent in nominal terms in 1978, following an increase of 13.7 per cent in 1977. When inflation is discounted it would appear that investment will rise by 4.5 per cent compared with about 8 per cent last year.

Call for registration and licensing of chartered engineers

By Derek Harris

The most controversial plan so far for the restructuring of the engineering profession was set yesterday by the Institution of Electrical Engineers (IEE), one of the big three chartered organizations, to the Institution of Mechanical Engineers.

The IEE urged that there should be statutory registration of chartered engineers and a form of licensing in a system administered by an independent statutory body.

In taking this stand on licensing and on an independent body to set and administer qualification standards, and to control professional conduct, the IEE is far alone among the member organizations of the Council of Engineering Institutions.

Such a solution would particularly diminish the role of CEI, centre of controversy for two years over a federal structure criticized for leading to indecisiveness.

A modified structure for CEI, still to be approved by the Privy Council, has since been agreed that goes some way to meeting the criticisms.

The IEE wants the proposed statutory council to be composed mainly of professional engineers, but acting in a personal capacity on behalf of the profession as a whole. In this way the profession would remain essentially self-regulating.

The proposed system would be more effective than the present system of regulation which is based on membership of the various societies looking after the interests of engineers, the IEE claimed.

British Aerospace exports likely to exceed £1,000m

In brief

Exports of British aircraft industry products are likely to have reached a record £1,000m during 1977, according to figures published yesterday by the Society of British Aerospace Companies.

The 1976 figure was £950m, and it is expected that the final figure for last year could be around £1,020m.

Exports for November totalled £89m, which was £11m up on the same month of 1976. Up to the end of November, Britain exported £443m worth of aircraft and parts, and £401m worth of engines and parts, including 369 new engines, and 1,170 refurbished engines.

The BEC was the best customer for aircraft and parts, with £132m worth of business, while the United States imported the highest total of engines and parts (£142m).

Commercial vehicle sales up 8pc last year

Commercial vehicle sales in Britain last year rose by almost 8 per cent over 1976, according to figures published today by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders. Sales totalled 225,222, and Ford—with sales of 70,265—retained its number one position in the market, revealing a penetration of 31.2 per cent.

Imports increased their share from 14 to 16.5 per cent—a large part of the rise due to increasing numbers of car-derived vans and light trucks arriving from Japanese manu-

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Railway manning and the Transport Department

From Mr Richard Hope

Sir, I understand that British Rail's chairman, Mr Peter Parker, was asked by the Secretary of State for Transport, Mr William Rodgers, to call round at his office on the afternoon following publication of my article in *Business News* on January 11, and explain how it was that a confidential exchange of views on industrial relations strategy had reached a wider audience than originally intended.

No doubt Mr Parker drew Mr Rodgers' attention to certain occasions in the past when his own departmental security had not proved impervious to regards topics of railway interest.

I would not wish to take sides; it is amazing how many people will phone up when there is skulduggery afoot of which they disapprove. I merely ask your readers to reflect on one point. If there were indeed no interference by the transport department in the railway manning issue, as Mr Parker insisted in his letter to me on January 12, how could there have been a serious breach of security either at Marsham Street or Marylebone?

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD HOPE,
Editor,
Railway Gazette,
Dorset House,
Stamford Street,
London, SE1 9LU.
January 12.

From Mr Dave Bowman
Sir, Why did Richard Hope continually refer to drivers' assistants as firemen, in his article in your paper on January 11, when he must know

'Industrial strategy': value of NEDO

From Mr Thomas Dalby

Sir, Dr Ralph Horwitz expresses Sir, Dr Ralph Horwitz expresses the "new industrial strategy" (January 9) and doubts whether "this particular NEDO finery has any more substance than the Emperor's clothing". This is, of course, a splendid debating point, but an organization such as NEDO represents the sum of its constituent parts and its effectiveness or otherwise depends upon the ability of those parts to work together.

NEDO brings together management, trade unions and government and this is the first step towards the formulation of an industrial strategy. I cannot quite follow Dr Horwitz's concluding sentence of thirty-three words, but his "time horizon of probabilistic certainty" must surely depend upon the planning capacity of a body such as NEDO. He suggests no alternative.

Perhaps some of the "mythique" would have evaporated if more attention had been drawn during the past few years to the NEDO Discussion Papers. These valuable contributions to industrial knowledge are surely a necessary basis from which any strategy may be formulated and, instead of the "mythique" of fancy modelling by mathematical sophistry, these papers deal with practical matters. For example, D. T. N. Williamson, FRSE, in *Discussion Paper 1* writes, "... I have tried to set down some thoughts from an engineer's, rather than an economist's, viewpoint, which have been arrived at by a process of self-education with the aim of forming a coherent picture of the situation in the engineering industry as it affects the national economy".

It seems possible that NEDO is merely another set of initials to more people and that much more could be done to explain its work and achievements.

Yours faithfully,
THOMAS DALBY,
66 York Road,
Headington,
Oxford.
January 11.

Salaries and efficiency in the public sector

From Mr C. L. Fox

Sir, The views of Mr K. S. Burron (January 11) who asserts that the public service is more efficient than private industry, and thus deserves larger salaries plus presumably, index-linked pensions and complete freedom from the fear of unemployment) are understandable. But what is E Europe is called a people's democracy; but he is nevertheless mistaken,

The public service is not more efficient: it is merely more efficient at concealing its inefficiency. Has he never heard of Section 2 of the Official Secrets Act, and the use which government departments have made of it since 1911?

Yours sincerely,
C. L. FOX,
Heatherbrook,
Finchamstead Ridges,
Wokingham,
Berkshire.
January 11.

Gazumping: nonsense to talk of avarice

From Mrs Patricia L. Wilcox
Sir, Mr Philip Lee's reply of January 10 to my letter prompts me to say:

(1) I am not English.
(2) I am not a man.
(3) Keeping one's hood is not a virtue confined to men or the English.

Neither the buyer nor the seller has any protection till contracts are signed and exchanged—unimpeachable instances could be quoted on both sides of "broken bonds", as we all well know from experience.

No purchaser agrees "un- equivocally" to buy your property for an agreed sum, etc, unless they have a "fool for a lawyer".

Accountants qualify DoT report

By Our Financial Staff

Giving its views on the Department of Trade and Industry on company reports the Consultative Committee of Accountancy Bodies says, it recognizes that the issues raised need consideration but has doubts about many of the detailed proposals.

The accountancy bodies are said to be in favour of the statutory inclusion in reports of a statement of source and application of funds, as well as the disclosure of leasing and hire-purchase commitments and information about short-term borrowings.

Accountants qualify DoT report

But virtually all the other proposals are rejected before research and practical trials have been carried out.

The accountants draw attention to the distinction between disclosure necessary for a "true and fair view" and supplementary information, and suggest the latter could be dispensed with for smaller companies.

Commenting on the DoT proposals relating to the latest EEC directive on public companies, the accountants suggest existing large private companies should have to match public companies' disclosure standards.

In its comments yesterday the

Commercial vehicle sales up 8pc last year

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Imports increased their share from 14 to 16.5 per cent—a large part of the rise due to increasing numbers of car-derived vans and light trucks arriving from Japanese manu-

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE PLANS White Paper foresees public sector spending at £4,000m

By Peter Hill
Industrial Correspondent

State industries are to lift their capital spending to £3,500m next year, and a further rise is expected in the following year, according to the White Paper on public expenditure, published yesterday.

The estimates show that spending in 1979-80 will amount to some £3,484m, and after remaining steady in the following year will rise again to nearly £4,000m in 1981-82.

But the estimates do not include any forecast of the spending programme for the British Steel Corporation beyond next year. The BSC is at the centre of a parliamentary controversy after this week's report on its activities by an all-party committee of MPs which called for a prudent approach to its capital spending programme.

Complete present development plans and spending in 1978 will be not less than £500m.

Commenting on the National Coal Board's investment programme over the next four years, the White Paper said "the cost of spending was expected over the first two years, but increases are foreseen in the second phase."

It revealed that the cost of the Plan for Coal has risen sharply, and its estimated cost £3,710m (at March 1977 prices) representing a rise of 29 per cent on the original estimates.

According to the White Paper the reason for the upward revision reflects "initial underestimates caused by the NCB's lack of recent largescale investment experience and inclusion of additional projects to improve efficiency."

Public expenditure plans

	1977-78	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81	1981-82
£ million at 1977 survey prices					
Expenditure on programmes	36,522	41,655	41,990	42,418	42,570
Central government	15,307	15,847	15,719	15,580	15,592
Local authorities	54,979	57,144	57,699	58,308	58,562
Certain public corporations	993	952	1,012	1,002	1,015
Total expenditure on programmes	55,972	59,100	59,711	59,310	59,577
Contingency reserve	750	750	1,500	1,750	2,000
Total	56,722	59,850	60,211	61,060	61,577
Debt interest	2,500	2,000	1,900	1,800	1,600
Total public expenditure	59,222	60,850	62,111	62,860	63,177
Total programmes, contingency reserve and debt interest	57,222	59,850	59,611	60,460	61,227

(*) Corporations whose capital expenditure is included in public expenditure: mainly the water authorities, the housing corporation and the new town development corporations. These corporations do not include the nationalised industries.

to a cash limit in the new financial year. The report noted that future spending plans had not yet been assigned to specific projects and were contingent on investment decisions still to be made.

Oil and gas revenues accruing to BNOC in the year ahead will amount to an estimated £100m, and the organization's

when the organization was created last July.

Elsewhere in the White Paper there are provisions for a redundancy scheme for the shipyard and the Government is expected to give a second reading to the Bill early next year.

There is also provision for a maintenance of the Shipbuilding Intervention Fund, and the cost-escalation insurance scheme for the industry.

Dealing with the Post Office, the White Paper said the organization's telecommunications business is expected to finance almost all of its capital requirements from internally generated funds. The investment in telecommunications is expected to rise at the average of 5.7 per cent over the next four years. Spending on the postal side is likely to be marginally lower than in last year's White Paper forecast.

British Airways intends to remain inside its cash limit on external finance of £71m this year. The fall in profits expected this year will be partially offset by a reduction in capital spending.

British Rail's programme will involve investment in high speed trains which are to be extended to some non-electric intercity routes and the purchase of new locomotives and wagons as part of its Speedlink freight service.

Allocation for Concorde declines steadily over next four years

By Malcolm Brown

Government spending on Concorde will fall off significantly over the next four years, according to the White Paper.

Provision for development work on the aircraft will fall to £17m in 1978-79, compared with £19m in 1977-78, and in the subsequent three years will be cut sharply, falling to £3m in 1981-82.

Production expenditure on the project in 1978-79 will be just £6m to £16m, the provision for the following three years being £13m, £9m, and £10m.

The White Paper says that its forecasts for Concorde spending reflect a steady decline in net expenditure as the present authorized production programme is completed in 1978

and costs become confined to in-service support.

Whitehall estimates that spending on regional support and regeneration will rise from this year's £564m to £654m in 1978-79. A major component of this will be a £58m increase in regional development grants. Provision is also being made for a programme of factory building in shipbuilding areas.

The White Paper says that the build-up of the activities of the Scottish and Welsh Development Agencies, set up to accelerate industrial and economic development, is slower than expected in 1976-77, the first full year of their operation.

But programmes increased in 1977 and for 1978-79 increased provision has been made for

factory building. The allocation for the agencies in 1978-79 is put at £112m, compared with £90m in 1977-78 and £28m in 1976-77.

National Enterprise Board estimates are in cash terms rather than the constant price figures used elsewhere. Provision is made for loans and advances of public dividend capital to the board.

These figures provide for the maintenance throughout the next four years of the allocation given in last year's White Paper for the years 1977-78 and 1978-79—£275m a year—adjusted to take account of the expected underspending in 1977-78 and loan repayments.

Selective assistance under Section 8 of the Industry Act

1972 will go up from 1977-78's figure of £19m to £166m in 1978-79, falling off in subsequent years until it reaches £62m in 1981-82.

This encompasses assistance for counter-cyclical investment under the accelerated projects scheme, which closed in 1976; provision for a range of schemes to encourage the modernization of key sectors of industry and cash for the selective investment scheme.

Provision is made for support for British Leyland from 1977-78 onwards and loans and grants to Chrysler (United Kingdom) to help meet losses in 1977 and assist the company's investment programme.

The White Paper says that the aggregate of firm expendi-

PUBLIC EXPENDITURE BY ECONOMIC CATEGORY

	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81	1981-82
£ million at 1977 survey prices										
Current expenditure	15,325	15,932	16,493	17,409	17,642	17,762	18,004	18,142	18,258	18,417
Investment	9,074	9,222	9,269	9,661	9,533	9,411	9,529	9,581	9,688	10,121
Other current expenditure on goods and services	2,718	2,824	2,970	3,078	3,092	3,072	3,072	3,072	3,072	3,072
Subsidies	11,641	11,641	11,641	11,641	11,641	11,641	11,641	11,641	11,641	11,641
Current grants to persons	984	984	984	984	984	984	984	984	984	984
Current grants to private bodies	487	487	487	487	487	487	487	487	487	487
Current grants to public bodies	38,508	41,959	42,567	46,615	46,901	47,289	48,812	49,346	50,174	50,576
Total excluding debt interest	6,727	7,115	6,999	7,014	6,296	5,116	5,363	5,420	5,434	5,462
Capital expenditure	1,513	1,581	1,642	1,620	1,778	1,858	1,858	1,858	1,858	1,858
Gross domestic fixed capital formation	360	715	1,240	1,484	1,611	1,726	1,800	1,858	1,858	1,858
Investment in non-current assets	2,129	472	1,240	1,425	552	527	1,737	1,877	1,878	1,818
Investment in non-current assets in the private sector	40	236	179	120	96	59	81	74	74	74
Investment in non-current assets in the public sector	66	29	180	137	119	142	167	200	200	200
Other net lending and investment	702	717	762	776	593	109	150	150	150	150
Cash expenditure on company securities (net)	22	3	331	411	26	536	3	3	3	3
Capital transfers abroad	126	59	191	16	6	10	13	12	12	12
Total	12,069	11,116	12,462	11,686	9,900	6,931	9,288	9,365	9,135	9,001
Contingency reserve	750	750	1,500	1,750	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Total	12,819	11,866	13,962	13,436	11,900	8,931	11,288	11,365	11,135	11,001
Debt interest	913	1,062	907	1,169	1,062	1,000	2,000	1,800	1,800	1,600
Total	13,732	12,928	14,869	14,605	12,962	9,931	13,288	13,165	12,935	12,601

The principal corporations other than nationalised industries are the National Enterprise Board and the Scottish and Welsh Development Agencies.

PUBLIC EXPENDITURE BY PROGRAMME

	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81	1981-82
1. Defence and other overseas services	6,451	6,370	6,123	6,445	6,794	6,235	6,279	6,494	6,999	6,861
2. Agriculture, fisheries, food and forestry	1,183	1,275	1,143	1,044	1,175	1,151	1,222	1,240	1,248	1,262
3. Trade, industry and employment	111	92	1,054	1,711	1,172	894	706	674	641	642
4. Health, education and scientific research	2,277	2,274	2,135	2,107	2,061	1,724	1,733	1,742	1,742	1,742
5. Government lending to non-current industries	2,676	324	1,116	1,347	2,042	429	1,374	1,374	1,374	1,374
6. Roads and transport	2,078	2,078	2,078	2,078	2,078	2,078	2,078	2,078	2,078	2,078
7. Housing	1,175	1,211	1,211	1,211	1,211	1,211	1,211	1,211	1,211	1,211
8. Other environmental services	2,004	2,004	2,004	2,004	2,004	2,004	2,004	2,004	2,004	2,004
9. Law, order and protective services	1,912	1,912	1,912	1,912	1,912	1,912	1,912	1,912	1,912	1,912
10. Education and libraries	7,654	7,654	7,654	7,654	7,654	7,654	7,654	7,654	7,654	7,654
11. Health and personal social services	6,534	6,534	6,534	6,534	6,534	6,534	6,534	6,534	6,534	6,534
12. Social security	10,071	10,071	10,071	10,071	10,071	10,071	10,071	10,071	10,071	10,071
13. Other public services	6,741	6,741	6,741	6,741	6,741	6,741	6,741	6,741	6,741	6,741
14. Community services	802	802	802	802	802	802	802	802	802	802
15. Northern Ireland	1,202	1,202	1,202	1,202	1,202	1,202	1,202	1,202	1,202	1,202
Total programme	51,777	51,007	52,728	55,901	56,201	54,721	54,801	54,801	54,801	54,801
Contingency reserve	750	750	1,500							
Total	52,527	51,757	54,228	55,901	56,201	54,721	54,801	54,801	54,801	54,801
Debt interest	913	1,052	967	1,034	1,034	1,034	1,034	1,034	1,034	1,034
Total	53,440	52,809	55,195	56,935	57,235	55,755	55,835	55,835	55,835	55,835
Total programmes, contingency reserve and foreign and market borrowings	53,440	52,809	55,195	56,935	57,235	55,755	55,835	55,835	55,835	55,835

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

No help for the market

Initial market reaction to the Government's plans for future public spending was that they looked more like a black than a white paper. But, on closer examination and many adjustments later, doubts over the effective size of the planned increases in public spending for 1978-79 began to recede—though one hardly need add that scepticism over the precision of the forecasting remains high.

As far as the gilt market is concerned, of course, the figures projected in the White Paper are not the figures that are going to matter. What is going to matter is the projection for the public sector borrowing requirement that comes in the Chancellor's Budget speech on the basis of his planned tax cuts.

Meanwhile, the market is grudging towards the end of a fairly unsettled week that can have brought little joy either to investors or the authorities. The further drop in M.L.R. that some had been looking for late last week is clearly off for the time being; the new long "tap" has been left high and dry; and the international currency markets remain nervous and volatile.

English China Clays

An exporter feels the pressure

Big exporters are out of favour in the stock market these days. And, having indicated it was slowing down at the half-year stage, English China Clays has since underperformed the market by about a quarter. While full-year profits are up by 24 per cent at £30.5m, the shares are thus selling at only 8.5 times earnings at 80p and yield 6.4 per cent. Now that the pound is strong E.C.C. is, admittedly, finding some protection from its continuing policy of invoicing its exports—which account for 80 per cent of clay production—in sterling. But the currency squeeze on its customers has already been snub that a price increase on china clay abroad has so far been impossible.

The EEC has managed a 7.4 per cent rise in the home market and a similar increase in the ceramic, plastics, rubber and paint businesses. Whether more price rises will be possible later clearly depends on sterling's strength, but without an increase the going will be hard. Volume, up from 2.3m to 2.6m tonnes last year, will be sluggish, and E.C.C.'s efforts to persuade paper-makers to use a higher proportion of cheap clay in their paper are making little headway in view of the glut of pulp in the market.

So growth from china clay in 1978 seems likely to be marginal at best, and if E.C.C. is to achieve any growth to speak of it will be in the form of a revival in the non-clay interests. Excluding capital profits in the transport division, these had a miserable year in 1977.

Despite nearly £1m from acquisitions their trading profits fell by £1m to £6.8m, but in the present year ought to show recovery. E.C.C.'s shares may already be low in historical rating terms, but with profits growth unlikely to match the rate of inflation this is not yet the time to be buying the shares.

Harrisons & Crosfield's

Leaving nothing to chance

Harrisons & Crosfield's increased alternative cash offer from 78.5p a share to 82p a share for Harcos Investment Trust (the three-for-thirteen share offer remains the same) seems to show that the group is leaving nothing to chance.

H & C was forced into paying the higher price having picked up an extra 10.7 per cent at the higher price, mainly from M & G, and is paying a premium of 9.4 per cent over net asset value. H & C admits that Harcos has a strategic value to the group—as I pointed out a month ago before the bid was made—since it has important holdings in other group companies—such as nearly 16 per cent of Castlefield, 11 per cent of Killgobbin, 9 per cent of London Sumatra and 4.4 per cent of Harrisons Malaysia Estates, based on figures published a year ago.

The sting of the Harcos bid seems hardly coincidental since H & C had just been forced into a defensive bid for Malaysian because of the unwelcome atten-

tion paid to it by McLeod Russell—which outside shareholders or go for a minimum of 50 per cent (the Harcos bid is now conditional on receiving only more than 50 per cent of the shares).

It takes the cash offer, although none of the other companies in the H & C empire seems vulnerable to predators at the moment, it is possible that over a period of time H & C may start mopping up the

Two institutional shareholders of Allied Polymer, Scottish Provident and M & G, together accounting for just under 44 per cent of the equity, say they will not accept the 50p a share bid terms from BTR. Their case—which is contested by AP and its advisers Rothschilds—is that given AP's rather erratic history, shareholders were not provided with sufficient information on which to base a proper judgment of the terms.

Specifically, there was no forecast for 1977. Without entering into the merit or otherwise of the institutions' claim this looks like the sort of action which major investors should be taking when they have reason to be dissatisfied. The snag is that Scottish Provident, which issued a statement only last night, and M & G have left it very late in the day.

The agreed bid from BTR is already unconditional, at least 87 per cent of the equity having been committed. Compulsory purchase of the minority under section 209 of the Companies Act must be the outcome. The point surely is that, while institutional action of this kind is to be encouraged, most institutions still have much to learn about how to organize an effective protest.

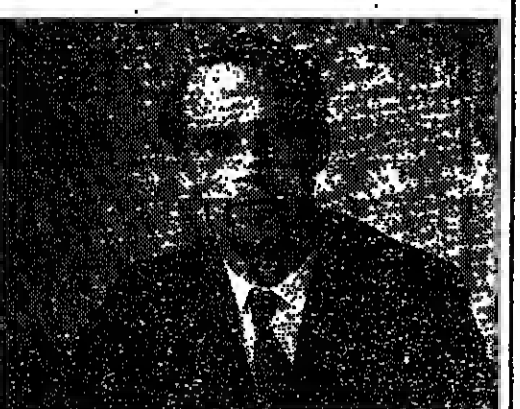
Scottish & Newcastle

Lager output is increasing

Scottish & Newcastle Breweries has nothing to be ashamed of in its 8 per cent profits rise to £22.1m in the six months to October. Its rating, however, with a yield of 7.4 per cent on the shares at 64p 11 points above the sector average, continues to reflect worries over S & N's long-term growth.

Since beer drinkers turned from a growing preference for Keg beers, which had been S & N's strength, to lager, and to a lesser extent, to "traditional" beers, S & N has underperformed the other majors. This may have been over done. The 4 per cent drop in volume in its beer sales during the period, the group estimates, is not far out of line with that of the industry and can be partly explained by the effects of industrial trouble at suppliers.

Lager production is increasing, with a high proportion of the £40m of capital spending going to increased capacity this year. Lager sales by S & N are still less



Mr Peter Balfour, chairman of Scottish & Newcastle Breweries.

than the industry average of a quarter of total beer sales, and it should have potential for taking its fair share of an increasing market, particularly in its traditionally strong output to free trade.

Growth in the half has been helped by the acquisition of the Kensington Palace Hotel and indeed, most of the increase in profits seems to have come from the non-beer activities. With a strengthening pound, beer may not be as strong in the second half and it is groups like Allied, rather than S & N, which stands to benefit most from on-beer activities in 1978 as consumer spending leads to trading up into wines and spirits.

Kenneth Owen, Technology Correspondent, on the latest research into electric lighting

Twilight of the filament bulb

The alleged deficiencies of the lighting industry and its products came under renewed public scrutiny this week, as the Select Committee on Science and Technology continued its investigation into "the durability and efficiency of discharge and filament lamps" by questioning witnesses from Philips, Osram and Osram (GEC).

Subjects covered included the comparative lives of British and American lamps, the quality and effects of long-life bulbs, and the alleged lack of competition between the main British suppliers.

All three companies' top executives were as one in stressing that, long life or short life, all filament lamps (the kind used in most light fittings in the home) are basically inefficient in converting electricity into light.

Hence the general move away from filament lamps and towards the more efficient discharge lamps in industry, commerce and public area lighting.

Discharge lamps, of which the fluorescent tube is the familiar example, are the standard tube with an electric current passes through it. There are various types, using mercury or sodium vapour as the gas in the tube, and operating at either high or low pressure.

The variations in efficiency between filament and discharge

lamps are great, according to figures quoted to the committee by Mr I. F. Davies, technical manager of Philips lighting division.

With light output expressed in lumens, the tungsten filament lamp gives 12 or 13 lumens per watt; tungsten halogen 25 or 26 lumens per watt; fluorescent tubes 80 to 90 lumens per watt; high-pressure sodium lamps (using spin-off technology from the United States space programme) over 120 lumens per watt; and, "the most efficient lamp known in the world", the low-pressure sodium lamp (the familiar yellow street light) at more than 180 lumens per watt.

There is little scope for making filament lamps more efficient, that is, more economical in their use of electricity, the industrialists told the committee.

"The technology has reached the end of its range," declared Mr I. F. Davies of Philips. "You really should move away from tungsten filament bulbs if you want efficiency," said Mr John Birch, of Osram.

This fact has been reflected in the widespread move away from filament lamps and towards the adoption of the more efficient discharge-type

lighting in offices, factories and public buildings.

Where filament lamps are used in industry, incidentally, the cost of labour in replacing bulbs can make the extra cost of the long-life bulbs worthwhile. (As, indeed, inconvenience or difficulty for old people can make them worthwhile in domestic use.)

Thus on energy-saving grounds, which also means reduced cost to the user, there would be benefits in moving from filament to discharge lighting in the home. This has already happened in kitchens and bathrooms, but tubes are not generally acceptable for living rooms.

Enormous energy savings are possible. Britain's energy bill for lighting could be cut by 30 per cent with the adoption of more effective methods, a Philips witness suggested. If domestic users changed from filament lamps to fluorescent tubes, an Osram executive

opined, the saving would be equivalent to perhaps half the output of a Drax B power station.

Another striking indication of the inefficiency of filament lamps is given by the following industry estimate. About 50 per cent of the energy used for lighting (domestic, industrial and commercial) goes into filament lamps. Yet this 50 per cent of the energy input produces only 15 to 20 per cent of the total light output.

One hope for the future of domestic lighting, given the apparently dim prospects for further technological advance in conventional tungsten filament lamps, is that a role may be found for tungsten-halogen lamps. They would be more expensive but would give both longer life and more efficiency. So far they are available in high-power versions only.

To move down from 1,500 watts to 300 watts with tungsten-halogen has taken 20 years, Mr Sansom reminded the committee. But it was hoped that lower-power units suitable for domestic use would be developed.

In an article in New Scientist last summer David Meiklejohn, an engineer at Edinburgh University, alleged that the rated lives of British discharge lamps could and should be doubled or tripled in bringing them in line with American practice.

Mr Birch dealt with this one before the committee this week. The "rated life" was calculated in different ways in the two countries, he said.

In Britain, a sample of about 5 per cent of lamps was tested, and the rated life was defined as the time after which the average light output dropped to 80 per cent of the initial value.

In the United States, the rated life was the time at which 50 per cent of a large number of lamps failed to operate. That was why the rated life of an American discharge lamp

might be 24,000 hours and a British one 6,000 hours, he said. It was wrong to assume that the British lamp was inferior. The emotive subject of long-life bulbs remains somewhat obscure. The industry argues that customers have the choice (compared with standard 1,000-hour lamps) of long-life versions are about 20 per cent more expensive and produce 20 per cent less light output; but in general they are choosing the standard ones for domestic use.

For industrial and commercial use, where replacement can be expensive it pays to go for longer life. Overall, the choice depends on the customer and the application.

As for allegations of a lack of competition, the industry (whose history includes two Monopolies Commission inquiries) is insisting that nothing irregular is going on at present.

Yes, there was a prices agreement between companies a long time ago, said Mr C. J. Scott of Osram, but there is nothing like that now. Suggestions that a cartel operation had kept down the lives of lamps for the domestic consumer, and that standards were "bent" to the advantage of the manufacturers were both untrue, said Mr Sansom.

Have American trade unions lost their touch?

This year will be a most important one for America's trade unions. They are widely seen as having lost much of their political power and indeed President Carter is being far less respect for the AFL-CIO trade union organization than has traditionally been the case for Democratic Party leaders. The unions are now striving to demonstrate that they still have a big voice in setting the nation's governmental policies.

In the coming months, the AFL-CIO will be tested as it seeks to win support from the Congress and the White House for its long shopping list of legislative demands. The degree of influence that the unions still can exert will also be tested as they strive to secure that their candidates are victorious in November's congressional elections.

The AFL-CIO claims to speak for all employed United States workers and the millions of Americans seeking jobs and not just for the 13,700,000 members of its affiliated unions. But these unions have been losing members in the last couple of years, not gaining them and for many American workers the AFL-CIO is an establishment group that has increasingly lost touch with the young and the modestly paid worker.

Many of the union leaders are old and prosperous and seemingly content to sit back and smoke large cigars and recall the battles of the past. To a good number of workers the leadership of the unions is becoming increasingly out of touch with the problems and the welfare of those he is elected to represent.

Few speakers at the recent AFL-CIO twelfth biennial "Constitutional Congress" ventured to open their addresses without paying tribute to the brilliant leadership of Mr Meany. The executive published a massive list of conference resolutions all accepted by Meany's blessing and all were passed without the slightest



Mr George Meany, AFL-CIO chief: questionable whether his organization can fulfil the aspirations of the majority of America's 96m workers

indication of any opposition.

The conference was not the venue for constructive and open public debate on the key labour problems of today, but rather it was an opportunity for politicians and trade union leaders to pay homage to Mr Meany and to make set piece speeches of tedious length in favour of such highly predictable things as higher living standards, full employment and protection from foreign trade competition.

A few union leaders privately criticized Mr Meany and lamented that under his condescending leadership the AFL-CIO is becoming estranged from many ordinary union members. But one of these critics had

the courage to complain openly on the conference floor itself.

Clearly the dictatorial manner in which the AFL-CIO is being run is the chief reason why the United Auto Workers Union has refrained from seeking membership and no doubt the AFL-CIO will face internal dissent and conflict once the iron grip of Mr Meany is released.

The successor to Mr Meany is the Secretary-Treasurer, Mr Lane Kirkland, who for the last few years has held the number two post in the organization and who, prior to this appointment, was Mr Meany's executive assistant for 14 years. When his day comes to take the helm he is likely to discover that many of the union leaders who sit on the AFL-CIO's 35-member executive council will want to have a larger voice in setting the organization's policies.

It is likely that the biggest test of all for the AFL-CIO in the not too distant future will

come from within. Mr Meany has been in hospital several times in the recent past. He cannot remain in charge for many more years and it is now a matter of when rather than as to just what will happen to the organization once Mr Kirkland becomes president.

Despite its image and its problems the AFL-CIO still has much influence, although just how much will be determined by the political battles in the year ahead. Certainly Governor Jerry Brown of California, who undoubtedly has hopes of getting to the White House one day, would not have spent a great many hours with conferees delegates if he did not value their full support in his future political campaigns.

President Carter almost certainly made a blunder in becoming the first Democratic President to refuse an invitation to meet with the AFL-CIO's conference.

Some indication of the American labour movement's political power is reflected in the 1976 election results. The unions provided much cash for candidates and often more importantly, they supplied scores of campaign assistants. The AFL-CIO notes that its presidential candidate won as did 19 of its 28 candidates for the United States Senate, 263 of its 365 candidates for the House of Representatives and 14 of its 14 candidates for state governorships.

The goals that the AFL-CIO executive have set, which were all rubber-stamped and loudly applauded at its conference, are quite ambitious. The chief priority is higher employment and better above all the unions want more expansionary fiscal and monetary policies.

Even though Dr Arthur Burns is being replaced as chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank, as has been suggested, it is unlikely that Mr William Miller, the next chairman will push ahead with the easy money policies that the unions are now demanding. On the fiscal front, however, the may well be that trade union pressure will succeed in raising the level of cuts that President Carter proposes and that the unions will be quite content if the total volume of such cuts is in the neighbourhood of \$30,000m.

The unions also want increased public works and public housing programmes and a big urban renewal plan. On each front the Carter Administration and the Congress is likely to be responsive, but only in a modest way and go that is far short of the desires of both the unions and the leading black American organizations.

The unions have already received support from the House of Representatives and the Administration for changes in the nation's labour laws and the Senate is bound to give its support before long. The changes are important and, among other things, they will help the unions to strengthen their organizing efforts, especially in such traditionally anti-union areas of the country as the southern states.

One of the toughest battles will centre on the AFL-CIO's trade protection programme. The unions are striving for the sort of protectionism that could seriously weaken the world economy and America's foreign alliances and the Carter Administration is going to fight the unions on this issue. However, the unions have much support for their aims in the Congress and from an international perspective few policy issues in the United States in the next few months will be as important as this one.

In addition, the AFL-CIO is campaigning for improvements in general unemployment compensation, social security, coverage, pensions, and general reform of the welfare system. The creation of some kind of national health scheme in the United States is also high on the list of trade union objectives and serious debate on this will start in the coming year at the White House and in the Congress.

America's trade unions are not interested in outmoded industries or in waging political battles to win greater equality of income distribution. These are by no means socialist organizations and today many of their leaders would probably feel more comfortable on the front bench of the British Conservative Party than among the leadership of the Labour Party.

America's trade unions have over the years scored important achievements and in so small extent the increases in living standards of Americans, be they black or white, are due to the vigorous leadership of Mr Meany and his colleagues. But the structure of United States business is changing and millions of young people are leaving school to find that there are no jobs available to them and that the AFL-CIO faces new challenges.

It is questionable whether the AFL-CIO can meet these challenges and win the confidence of a much higher proportion of America's labour force of over 96 million people.

Frank Vogt

Business Diary: Paternoster's first lady • King's evidence

Members of the Paternoster, a men-only publishers' luncheon club, was addressed by a woman speaker yesterday for the first time or anything other than the annual ladies fixture—since the club was founded by Dennis Wheatley and others in 1933.

"Horror of horrors," said the chairman, Edwin Buckhalter, "we welcome here today a woman speaker. What is this club coming to? The answer is: 1978."

He was introducing Maureen Duffy, poet, novelist, playwright and biographer. If the previous male speakers are as good as she was, the Paternoster is indeed a lucky club.

Surveying the remains of the prawn cocktail, escalope of veal and black cherry flan, Miss Duffy observed wryly that if this was how publishers normally fared at luncheon then they ate better than the primary producer, the author.

The fault, she said, lay with authors themselves for keeping out of politics for so long. One result was that they had been trying without success since the 1950s to be paid for literary borrowings of their books.

She ended on an optimistic note, saying that authors now had their own TUC-affiliated union—the Writers' Guild (of which she is an executive member).

The Government was now studying writers' proposals for the distribution of money by the Arts Council, based on a sample of public library borrowings.

Next, another in Business Diary's occasional series "Where are they now?"

John King, former President Nixon's special ambassador to the Osaka World Trade Fair in 1970 and the man who introduced Wheatley and others in 1933.

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John King, former President Nixon's special ambassador.

King has just failed in his final attempt to avoid prison. Next week the former multimillionaire from Denver, Colorado will start a one-year sentence for Canadian Arctic Oil and gas lease frauds.

King and former IOS executives bought land in the Arctic and claimed that it was rich in energy reserves to increase its value. The gain in the land value, not only provided desperately needed profits for IOS, but also boosted the assets of King resources, the company that King was gearing up to take over IOS.

In the event last-minute withdrawals of promised support by United States banks deprived King of the chance to rule the Cornfield empire.

King's company went bankrupt and after protracted legal wrangles the former friend of Nixon was sentenced to prison. King tried unsuccessfully the other day to convince New York City judge that prison

would retard his recovery from a 1976 stroke. The judge, Marvin Frankel, ordered King to serve time at the federal medical centre in the prison at Springfield, Missouri, saying: "Having commanded extraordinary wealth, including millions of dollars fraudulently, Mr King, despite huge reverses, seems able still to have the means sufficient for lavish medical resources far beyond those available to the run of citizens, with or without criminal convictions."

A row about EEC bumbling that broke out on British quaysides over the new year is being kept on the boil by Stanley Crossick.

Crossick is a pro-EEC international lawyer who advises

both importers and exporters who need to keep an eye on EEC anti-dumping legislation. He is also an official of the Consultative Committee of the Bars and Law Societies of the European Community (CCBE).

Crossick is drawing up a report on the confusion that ensued when on New Year's Eve, the EEC published seven new anti-dumping instruments, all but one of them instantly applicable in Britain.

The editions of the Community's journal publishing the instrument were out available in London until January 9 and 10. In Paris, however, the French language edition was available by January 4, as was an English-language edition the following day.

Crossick's report, which will contain proposals for speeding up the dissemination of new EEC legislation, may go after consultation with the Law Society either to a society committee, to the CCBE or even to the commission itself.

perience will enable him to make a most generous contribution to the bank's future growth, particularly overseas."

Sir Christopher is not a complete newcomer to City banking. He was appointed a non-executive director of blue-blooded merchant bank N M Rothschild & Sons last June, when he said yesterday "I am gradually beginning to find my feet."

Uncharacteristically he was reticent about dismissing what he will do at NatWest.

Earlier this week Sir Christopher gave evidence to the Commons committee investigating the Think Tank's recommendations for the pruning of Britain's diplomatic representation overseas.

In view of the growing importance of the contributions from subsidiaries abroad to clearing bank profits, it would be surprising if National Westminster did not draw on his wide experience of European affairs.

Slowboat to China corner: a reader in Hongkong reports that the British Tourist Authority has a funny way of making money out of would-be tourists from overseas.

Planning a trip here he wrote to the BTA enclosing 40p so that the brief he wanted could be sent by business air mail. The BTA sent him a timetable of events (36 small pages in block-and-white), with a bill for £1.50 for the publication plus a further 10p towards the cost of air mail postage. Only they sent the brochure by surface mail at a cost of 83p. A 40p profit for our growing reserves certainly, but perhaps one less visitor this summer?

The Trans-Oceanic Trust Limited

Managed by J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Limited

The Annual General Meeting will be held at 120 Cheapside, London EC2 on Thursday 2 February 1978 at 10.30 a.m.

Extract from the Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 October 1977.

The Directors would like to bring to the attention of shareholders that the current year marks the Jubilee of the Trans-Oceanic Trust Limited. The Company was incorporated on 24 January 1928. It seems appropriate to point to various landmarks which have been achieved for the first time by the Company as it enters its Jubilee year; namely, the total net assets have exceeded £30 million; the net assets have exceeded £2 per share; revenue available for Ordinary shareholders exceeded £600,000, and finally the dividend is at a new high level of 5 pence per share net.

Salient Points	At 31.10.77	Year ended 31.10.77 %
Net Asset Value (assuming full Conversion of the Loan Stock)	224.50p	+34
Middle Market Price (Stock Exchange Daily Official List)	159p	+62
Dividends per share (net)	5.00p	+19
Retail Price Index		+14

Copies of the Report and Accounts are available from the Secretaries, J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Limited, 48 St. Martin's Lane, London WC2N 4EJ

Ulster job hopes rise despite new closure

By Robert Rodwell

Mr John Concanon, Minister of State, Northern Ireland Office, returned from an eight-day industrial promotion tour of the United States yesterday optimistic about prospects of new American investment in the province, Belfast was told of the closure of another manufacturing plant.

Spillers, the foods group, announced that its pet food factory in south Belfast would be closed in April because of declining demand and the 109 employees would become redundant. Spillers will concentrate future production on its two larger plants in England and Scotland.

Mr Concanon said he hoped for one or two positive investment decisions to be announced by American concerns within the next few weeks. It had not been as difficult as on an earlier visit to the United States to interest American bankers and industrialists in investing in Ulster.

"In general, they have been



Mr John Concanon

very responsive to our new package of investment incentives, and we are at present on the boardroom tables of several important American firms."

Mr Concanon said one of the three Houston-based oil-field equipment companies with manufacturing operations in Belfast was considering further expansion. This is believed to be Camco, the engineering group which employs 230 people.

Cairo talks warned of tanker funding danger

Cairo, Jan 11

A suggestion that Arab oil income should be used to fund schemes to resolve the world tanker crisis stirred controversy on the second day of the Sea Trade's Conference in Arab Shipping in Cairo yesterday.

Three hundred delegates from 29 countries are attending the conference, the first of its kind in the Arab world.

Mr Jim Davis, director of Kleinwort Benson, the London bankers, warned delegates that although tanker ownership represented the most logical way for Arab nations to participate in world shipping, the possibility of their ordering new tankers and ignoring the effects of such a policy on the freight market could pose dangers.

If the Arab nations wanted a reasonable return on their investment and could not at present "sensitively" direct investment in shipbuilding, then Arab funds should be channelled into schemes which have some prospect of resolving the tanker crisis.

The main possibilities were segregated ballast tanks, accelerated scrapping of tankers, and assisted lay-up whereby owners would receive loans to put their ships in lay-up, repayable when the ships were reactivated.

The results would be a reduction in marine pollution, boosted shipbuilding employment, and ultimately reduction in the tanker surplus and an improved freight market.

Arab shareholders of sufficient size to underwrite one or more of these schemes.

"If the Arab nations want their investment in shipping to be profitable an improvement in the tanker market must be generated," he said.

Mr Fadhil Khan, general manager, Gulfstream, sat down on the floor. Mr Davis is asking the Arabs to establish a charitable organization to save various industries in crisis. It is not only shipping that is in crisis.

Business appointments
NatWest
Post for Sir Christopher

Sir Christopher Soames has been appointed to the main board of National Westminster Bank.

Mr R. C. Bovell has been named managing director of Impala Platinum. Mr K. A. B. Jackson has retired as managing director and chief executive. Mr J. T. Greig, who continues as chairman, has assumed the additional responsibilities of chief executive.

Sir Robin Gillett has returned to the board of George Dole. Mr A. A. Davis, Mr O. R. Jessel and Mr R. G. Epstone have resigned. Mr Peter Gibbs becomes director of marketing of Quaker Oats.

Mr P. Fathury and Mr G. A. Lemon have joined the board of BTR. Mr Fathury, formerly of Allied Polymer group, has also been made a deputy managing director of BTR.

Mr Stuart Watson has been appointed executive director of the Institute of Directors.

Dr C. M. Thomas has been named a director of Warwick Engineering Investments.

D. J. Wood, previously alternate directors, have been appointed to the board of Floreat Investment.

Mr A. C. B. Chancellor has resigned.

Mr R. F. D. Reed, deputy chairman and chief executive of Electrical & Industrial Securities, becomes chairman of C. F. Taylor (Holdings). Mr C. F. Taylor retires from the chairmanship and is made resident.

Mr Ian Addison has been appointed chief executive of PD Process Engineering.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Gailey Grp dispute bites hard as J F Nash slides

By Michael Clark

Shares of J. F. Nash Securities, the caravan distributor and packaging group, fell 3p to 65p yesterday following the news that pre-tax profits for the year to September 30, had dipped from £903,000 to £717,000.

Turnover of the Kettering-based group climbed from £14.87m to £17.17m so pre-tax margins tumbled from 6 per cent to 4.17 per cent. Earnings a share are 15.54p compared with 13.25p and the board are proposing a final dividend of 4.0p, making a total for the year of 7.54p gross compared with 7.02p for the corresponding period. The group no longer makes provision for deferred tax as in the opinion of the board, stock levels and capital investment programmes will continue at current or increasing levels for the foreseeable future.

A blow to the group's figures came from the caravan distribution subsidiary, Gailey Group, which halved its profits contribution.

The substantial fall in trading profits of Gailey Group resulted not only from a forced change of distribution and franchise policy, but also because of an abnormally low level of retail sales of caravans throughout the country in the late spring and early summer. All the group's other subsidiaries increased their profits satisfactorily during the year. The pre-tax profits also include a sum of £74,000 from the group's recent acquisition Reliant Motor.

During the year the group, with one exception, has sold all its associated company and minority interests.

At the half-way stage pre-tax profits slipped slightly from £148,000 to £141,000 although turnover rose by 8 per cent to £9.95m. The dispute between Gailey Group and its main supplier, Ace Belmont International, had a much greater impact on profits than was forecast. However a better-than-expected performance by the group's packaging division, Barpak, managed to cushion the slide.

Income rise for Equity & Law

New life business announced by Equity & Law reflect the continued trend away from whole-life non-profit business following changes in initial commission and introduction of new types of contract to which reference was made in the chairman's statement last year.

In particular the new contracts linked to investment funds introduced during the year have contributed £2.6m in single premiums. In addition new annual premium income from group pensions business showed a good increase to £1.2m compared with £1.1m in 1976 and a large increase in new single premiums at £15.1m (£11.0m). Of the new annual premium £9.5m (£10.1m) were under life policies and £5.6m (£4.0m) under annuity contracts. Of the new single premiums £6.1m (£4.0m) were under life policies and £9.0m (£7.0m) under annuity contracts.

With more expertise today on the Arab side there will also be more certainty as their net both wider afield and with far greater discretion.

He forecast an increase in joint Arab ventures, United Arab Shipping, set up by six Arab governments, could develop into one of the world's largest operators of general cargo ships, he predicted.

Mr Ian Foster, managing director of Calcraft Wrigleson, London brokers, said the timing of the Arab penetration into the shipping industry was ideal. With a depression in the market modern ships could be purchased for a fraction of their building cost, he said.

"However even bargains can be expensive if purchased with little forethought as to ultimate use," he pointed out.

Peak £18m by Merc Credit

In the year to September 30 last, pre-tax profits of Mercantile Credit, a members of the abrcays Group, more than doubled to a best-ever £18.1m, against £6.94m in the previous year.

In his statement as chairman, Mr A. Victor Adey said the growth in the total portfolio "has been achieved by an increase in our long-established consumer business, combined with the addition to our industrial portfolio of that relating to abrcays Export & Finance Co., which business was merged with ours from January, 1977."

The profit of the enlarged group is £15.5m, which includes the profit of BEAFCO for nine months and compares with the £6.9m earned by the Mercantile Group in 1976 and the separate earnings of BEAFCO for that year of £5.6m.

To this profit is added a credit of £2.2m from the abrcays provision made in 1974 and 1975 against the property portfolio.

In September, Mercantile Credit's issued capital was increased, and loan capital reintroduced. The preference capital has been converted to ordinary capital, the share premium account has been capitalized and Barclays has subscribed £3m of new ordinary capital to bring the company's total issued capital up to £27m.

The company has been mentioned by £12.7m of loan stock while Mercantile Credit was a publicly-quoted company. Following repayment of that sum in September, 1975, the company has received an injection of £17m of subordinated loan capital from Barclays repayable in 1984.

Hawkins & Tipson may hit peak again

Mr J. E. Hawkins, chairman of Hawkins & Tipson, looks forward with confidence to 1978, when profits should equal or exceed 1977's record and the board expects further growth in the years ahead.

"Every possible new acquisition is carefully considered by the corporate committee and, while we do not seek complete takeover, we are offered numerous opportunities," the chairman declares. On the rope division, he says that this still represents about 40 per cent of group sales and production.

The situation in this division has improved since the board's last report and the chairman doubts "if there is a more efficient unit anywhere".

The wire division expects to maintain its profits this year. The domestic division has been much more profitable than ever before and expects this growth to continue.

Exports are still rising and are conducted by senior staff throughout the group; the chairman is sure exports will continue to expand as more of the group's specialised products become known to more markets.

The annual report contains a current cost statement which shows the year's pre-tax profit before interest and tax at £602,000. The previous year's figure of £444,000 is adjusted to £186,000.

BAKER'S HOUSEHOLD STORES has for dividend resurgent board would be happy to recommend an increase in dividend in line with the proposed scrip issue of one-for-two.

GULF ASIA-J. E. SANGER Amooq the 800,000 shares bought by Gulf Asia Pacific from directors of S. G. Grant, now retired, and not from Mr J. G. Jackson as inadvertently stated. Mr Jackson remains a director.

HULL CINEMAS Cash offer for Mecca has been extended until Friday, February 10. Acceptances have been received on 96.0 per cent of equity.

MOWLEM BID CLEARED Mowlem between John Mowlem and Mowlem Engineering Company is not being referred to Monopolies Mergers Commission.

AGRICULTURAL MORTGAGE Issue of £3m variable rate bonds dated January 7, 1983 at 100 per cent interest rate, will be equal to 1 per cent above Libor.

Stock markets

Shares hit by public spending plans

Nervousness accentuated by the Government's White Paper on public expenditure was the keynote in equities.

Early buying quickly gave way to light but persistent selling after the news came out with most dealers becoming more bearish as the day went on.

Matters were not helped by possible confrontation on the industrial front where news that the firemen had agreed to return was more than offset by the prospect of potentially damaging clashes with both the power workers and the petrol tanker drivers.

Because of the worsening sentiment the FT index had an erratic day. By 11 am it was a full point better but by 3 pm was 3.2 below its overnight level. Profit taking by state "bulls" at the end of the account heightened the decline thereafter and by the close the index was a net 7.8 off at 479.4.

Gills had a lively day with both shorts and longs reacting erratically to the economic and industrial news.

After opening about 1 better, short anxieties slipped back on news of the Government's stepped-up plans. An attempted rally was scuppered by a Bank of England signal that it wanted no change in MLR today and that closed 1 to 1 easier. "Longs", which saw a reasonable turnover, bobbed up and

down with the value of sterling ending unchanged to 1 better. One cheering sector in an otherwise dull market was whisky stocks where speculative interest took some shares up as much as 6p.

With Distillers currently applying for a rise of up to 50p a bottle to bring United Kingdom prices into line with exports there is some thought that other groups could follow suit thus boosting the return on the pressured home sales.

However, with Distillers due to have their first discussions today with the EEC Commission since the abolition of their tariff pricing policy, a relaxation of the ruling could see this sector ease. Distillers closed 4p down at 168p.

Bid rumours surrounding the smaller independent whisky groups added 2p to one of the day's active stocks Arthur Bell at one point, but by the end, it

had eased back 4p to 230p. Highland Distillers added 1p to 151p while Tomatin, after going a penny better, closed unchanged at 154p.

The late decline bit the industrial leaders particularly hard. Beecham clocked up a 10p fall to 655p. Unilever was 5p off at 532p. Glaxo 7p lower at 398p and ICI six points off at 342p.

As investors started to take their profits on renewed fears over margins in the food sector Associated Dairies dipped 13p to 235p. Kwik Save slumped 10p to 203p, Fitch Lovell, lost 1p to 60p and Sainsbury itself, firm at first, closed 7p off at 183p.

After a Trust Houses Forte denial of a suggested counter-bid for Pontins, the market is now putting the group forward as a possible saviour for the hand of Madame Tussaud's. However, director, Mr Donald Durban, said yesterday that the matter had never been discussed at board level. After hitting an all-time high of 65p, Tussaud's closed 7p off at 61p, while TEF held steady at 186p.

These fears spilled over into stores where British Home Stores started to reflect its food interests and came under some pressure ending 6p lower at 212p. Elsewhere in the sector Marks & Spencer traded at a comparatively firm 135p after a mention while Burton "A" talked of a Grand Metropolitan interest in Highland Distillers.

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FINANCIAL NEWS

Raybeck up 25 pc in first half and more to come

By Victor Felstead

It looks as if record figures will be achieved yet again by the Raybeck group, the retailers' and manufacturers' of ladies' and men's wear which has a nationwide chain of outlets. On turnover 15.5 per cent ahead at £35.18m, pre-tax profits rose by 25 per cent to £2.75m in the 26 weeks to October 29. These figures are compared with the first 27 weeks of the previous year, which itself showed a 23 per cent increase.

Trading results to date since the end of October are better than expected, declares the chairman, Mr B. Raven, who says the group's profits should be "excellent" for the previous full year. Pre-tax profits rose by 25 per cent to a best-ever £4.66m, on sales 27 per cent greater at £63.11m.

Mr Raven explained yesterday that the group's progress has done well in the half-year, as has the ladies side, which has been reorganised. John Stephen of London, which was taken over with effect from last June, made a small contribution to group profits and should increase its profitability in the second half. With earnings per share up from 29.1p to 36.4p, the interim dividend, gross, is being lifted from 1.35p to 1.53p.

Moreover, the board expects to recommend a similar percentage increase in the year-end payment, which was 3.15p for 1976-77.



Mr B. Raven, chairman of Raybeck.

Raybeck's progress over the past few years shows just how valuable good management can be in difficult economic times; its record is much better than some other firms in the same sector.

If the first-half's rise is maintained, the full year's pre-tax result could reach about £5.5m, the first time they would have topped the £5m mark.

Last November, Raybeck exchanged contracts to buy Bon Marche (Wood Green), a private company, for £2.65m cash. Completion of the purchase is expected shortly.

Two-for-one scrip issue by Hickson & Welch

The shares in the Castleford-based concern of Hickson & Welch (Holdings) rose by 10p to 56.5p yesterday on the news of record profits and a scrip issue.

On group turnover up from £54.46m to £68.1m in the year to September 30, operating profits rose from £8.09m to £10.16m. Interest payable was down from £442,000 to £395,000, while investment and other income more than trebled from £82,000 to £277,000.

Associates' profits, however, were halved from £185,000 to £92,000. The pre-tax profit climbed from £7.91m to £10.13m, easily the best ever. Earnings for ordinary shareholders reached £7.29m, against £5.65m before an exchange loss of £197,000 on the net assets of overseas subsidiaries, against a £509,000 gain last year.

With earnings per share up from 88p to 113p, the total gross dividend is being lifted from 14.29p to 15.72p—the maximum allowed. Shareholders are also to receive a two-for-one scrip issue.

The accounts for 1977 incorporate changes in accounting policies regarding the valuation of stocks and the tax charge which is now the amount expected to be payable on the profit for the year. The comparative figures for 1976 have been adjusted.

M/cr Garages in top gear plans 'rights'

By Ashley Druker

Results of Manchester Garages for the 11 months to November 30, showing pre-tax profits up from £268,000 (for 12 months) to £399,000, are accompanied by a proposed rights issue on a two-for-three basis at 21p a share to raise about £650,000. This is at a discount of some 13p on the share price. It pays a total dividend of 0.99p net to date and total dividends of 1.5p a share are forecast on the enlarged equity for 1978.

The latest results confirm the optimism of Mr R. A. Stoodley, chairman and man-

aging director, at mid-term in July of record profits being on the cards for the full year. The outcome demonstrates that the company is continuing its trend of growth in comfortably topping the previous best-ever. He looks overall to results for the full 12 months to December 31 last reflecting a continuation of this trend.

Among reasons for the proposed rights are the expansion of turnover by over 50 per cent over the past three years. This expansion plus the need for further investment in the Truck Centre, Carefree Car Hire and

the development of a utility vehicle in conjunction with the National Research Development Corporation has obviously placed an increasing demand on MG's financial resources. Concerned that it should maintain the maximum flexibility to fund further expansion, both in the level of business and by acquisition, it was deemed prudent to expand the equity capital base so as to provide for further growth.

Turnover, up from £9.7m to £10.63m for the shorter period was also well in excess of any previous record.

At halfway the 47 per cent increase of this Ford main dealer illustrated the general trend within the motor distributors' sector this year.

Though the precise reasons for the general recovery vary from group to group, in the case of Manchester Garages a marked improvement in margins reflected increased efficiency in parts sales and servicing. But behind the better performances over the whole sector lies a general picture of rising car sales besides sharp increases in car prices.

Demand for bank credit subdued says Nat Comm

At the annual meeting of the National & Commercial Banking Group in Edinburgh, the chairman, Sir James Blair-Cunynghame, referred to the decision by the authorities last November to allow sterling to find its own level in the foreign exchange markets.

Since then, the exchange rate had shown a striking recovery which has been not merely the counterpart of a weak dollar, but also the result of a further increase in confidence in the U.K.'s economic outlook both at home and abroad. The capital inflows which had fuelled the sharp acceleration in the growth of the money supply consequently slowed markedly.

Short-term interest rates, which had been still falling at the end of the bank's financial year, rose abruptly towards the end of November, but continued, although they have subsided somewhat in the past few days. Meanwhile, the base and deposit rates of the Scottish and London clearing banks have moved back into line after their recent divergence.

Demand for bank credit has remained subdued, partly no doubt as a result of the favourable effect on company finance of the inflow of funds from abroad and although some recovery in bank lending to companies is in prospect, the chairman finds the extent of overseas hard to gauge, particularly in the light of continuing doubts about the prospects for investment. The Government's proposals for financing exports will mean that the banks will be able to provide a greater share of the total. Also important for the bank's business in the coming year are the various changes recently in exchange controls.

Sir James told shareholders that the greater freedom for capital transactions and the ending of the 25 per cent sur-renter rule were both acknowledgements of the new strength of sterling and of the United Kingdom's obligation to the EEC. "We could surely go further in making foreign exchange available to traders and others who such large sums are accumulating in official reserves?"

Sustained growth at Caplan Prof

With growth sustained in the second half, pre-tax profit of Caplan Profile Group, the office furniture and expanded polystyrene manufacturers, was lifted by 49 per cent to £438,800 to a record £653,000 in the year to August 31. Turnover expanded by 30 per cent from £3.1m to £4.02m.

After tax down from £241,000 to £148,000, net profit went ahead from £197,000 to £505,000. Earnings a share rose from 6.58p to 15.90p. With a final dividend up from 2.75p to 3.29p, the net total is lifted from 4.29p to 4.79p a share.

At the interim stage, pre-tax profit was up by 50 per cent from £202,000 to £302,000. The year's results illustrate sustained growth throughout the year, its chairman, Mr I. L. Caplan says, with second-half profits increasing by nearly 16 per cent over those in the first six months.

The figures are before the deduction of £27,000 which represents the group's proportion of "a relatively small" trading loss by its associate company in Canada.

Current production and sales are running at a much higher level than a year ago, he adds, if maintained, this should result in a record growth percentage and corresponding profitability. All divisions, including the Canadian associate, are going well. The probability of rapid growth in real terms "should become a reality within the foreseeable future", the chairman adds.

H & C lifts Harcross cash offer

Harrisons & Crossfields is to increase the cash alternative of the offer for Harcross Investment Trust, from the 78p stated in the formal offer document, to 82p.

However, the terms of three Harrisons & Crossfields shares for every 13 Harcross remain unchanged.

Harrisons have also bought a further 2,044 shares in Harcross at 82p, a share increasing its holding to 5.77m or 30.4 per cent of the issued share capital. Persons acting in concert with H & C for the purposes of the offer for Harcross own a further 4.8 per cent.

Harrisons & Crossfields have bought a bid for Golden Hope and, recently, McLeod Russell bid for Malayalam Plantations, a move which prompted an agreed counter offer from Harrisons. The terms of Harrisons bid for Malayalam are one £1 ordinary share of Harrisons for every 11 Malayalam, or the alternative of 30p in cash.

Basis of allotment for Tameside

Phillips & Drew say that lists of application for the 17m 103½ red stock 1984-85 of Tameside closed with the stock over-subscribed. The basis of allotment is as follows: Applications for £2,000 of stock have been allotted in full. Applications for £6,000 of stock to £30,000 receive £5,000 stock. Thereafter, applications will receive about 12½ per cent of the amount applied for, with a maximum of £165,000.

Jones Stroud heads for peak year

On the back of a rise in turnover from £8.4m to £11.9m,

pre-tax profits of Jones Stroud (Holdings) for the six months to September 30 have risen 27 per cent to £1.16m. The chairman of this maker of fabrics, accessories and material for the textile and electrical industries expects that this percentage increase will continue for the rest of the year.

Earnings a share are up from 5.18p to 7.36p.

The forecast assures the group of another record year. Over 1976-77 the group pushed its profits up from £1.7m to £2.1m.

Dunbee-Combe-Marx buys D-I-Y group

The board of toy makers Dunbee-Combe-Marx says that agreement in principle has been reached for the acquisition of the business of Decco, a subsidiary of The Wallpaper Manufacturers, itself a Reed International offshoot. Decco, a self-service wholesale distributor of do-it-yourself, hardware and gardening products, has about 17 depots throughout the country and is a leading specialist hardware wholesaler and carry company in the United Kingdom.

Bumper year on the way at Halmia

After producing record results for 1976-77, Halmia, a maker of safety control equipment, has enjoyed a bumper half year. The six months to September 30 show a leap in

pre-tax profits from £170,000 to £404,000 on turnover up from £3.6m to £4.5m. Earnings a share are up from 1.73p to 5.1p.

The chairman says that pre-tax profits for this year to March 31 will be "significantly higher" than the record £561,000 achieved a year ago. The interim dividend goes up from 0.56p to 1.13p and the board plans to double the final to 1.39p.

Midland Industries jumps 35 pc

The iron foundry activities of Midland Industries again provided most of the impetus behind a 34.5 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £1.8m. This was achieved on turnover up 28.6 per cent to £19.5m.

The chairman expects the current year to bring further progress for the group. The policy of expansion with further investment in new buildings, plant and machinery will continue. The order book throughout the year is encouraging.

Ind Newspapers tops £2m mark

"Independent Newspapers, the Dublin-based company which owns the 'Irish Independent' and other newspapers, boosted profits by more than £70,000 last year, 1977 pre-tax profits reached £2,092 compared with a surplus of £1,36m in 1976.

The improvement came from higher advertising revenue, and newspaper sales. The latter reflected both price increases and additional advertising volume.

Data Recording acquisition

Data Recording Instrument Co has agreed to acquire Newbury Laboratories, NL began trading in 1972 and is a profitable and expanding United Kingdom manufacturer of low-cost visual display units. DRI, already a substantial force in the European computer peripherals industry, has expanded rapidly since 1976 when the National Enterprise Board took a majority interest in the company in 1976.

Mr Harry Pinn, managing director of DRI, said: "Newbury will bring us new products to complement our existing range of disc drives, serial printers, diskette drives, cartridge tapes and recording heads. We shall also gain greater experience of end-user marketing and this will assist our longer-term development."

Following the acquisition, the group will be restructured with DRI becoming the holding company for three operating subsidiaries. These are Data Recording Equipment, a new company formed to continue the present computer peripherals operations of DRI. Data Recording Heads, and Newbury Laboratories. Mr Harry Pinn has been appointed deputy chairman of DRI.

Centreway bids for Blakeys

Using its nearly 33 per cent stake as a springboard, Centreway is bidding 41p a share for Blakeys (Malleable Castings).

This values the group at £1.18m and compares with the quoted price of 35p before the offer. Earlier in the day Blakeys' asked for its shares to be suspended as an approach which might lead to an offer had been received. A further statement was not expected until early next week.

However, Centreway later said that it would be making the offer on condition that shareholders do not approve resolutions which are to be put to the EGM called for today. This relates to a capitalisation of profits to give a new 25p share for every 75p of stock held at December 23.

Toys of tomorrow

Along with punk rock and Star Wars, skateboards must rate as a social phenomenon of the late 1970s and the toy manufacturers have missed out on the craze. But as long as Dad chooses his son's toys for the enjoyment of the former, there will always be a place for train sets and construction kits. Certainly, manufacturers of conventional toys appear to have absorbed the disappointment of another dull Christmas season and are packing up at Harrogate and moving on to the Birmingham Toy Fair in a mood of quiet confidence.

Still joy in the traditional

Harrogate, dominated by local wholesalers, may lack the importance of Birmingham but reactions have been encouraging. Berwick Timpo, for example reports that the number of customers attending the fair have been 20 per cent down but the overall volume of orders rose slightly. If, as expected, the retail trade representatives flock to the National Exhibitions Centre, Berwick Timpo's executive chairman, Mr Torquil Norman, is certain that "our salesmen will get them".

Export sales may not be quite so good as hoped since there is a three-week gap between Birmingham and Harrogate and many far-flung export customers may prefer to go straight to Germany and then on to Milan. Next year the British trade will

be setting up camp at Earl's Court after Harrogate, so the gap before Nuremberg opens will be reduced to one week. Below the almost playful facade of any toy fair lies a deep well of hard bargaining and sophisticated selling. Institutional investors will be well represented and their views of the toy sector will be influenced by the level of confidence shown by the quoted manufacturers which is best demonstrated by the number of new products being launched on the market.

Reinforced by the knowledge that retailing stocks were allowed to run down over Christmas, the optimism is good. Airfix Industries has put aside the traumas of the receivership at 66.7 per cent-owned Triang-Pedigree and is placing its bets on new additions to its dominant construction kit range: its East figures and Micronaut spacebats. These, the group hopes, will offset the 13 per cent pre-tax profit fall to £1.55m in the six months ended September 31 last. The upswing may come too late to reverse the historic p/e of 7.8 at 51p so, in the light of the 6.6 sector multiple, there seems little to go for in the short term.

Only Combox showed at Harrogate for Dunbee-Combe-Marx but, outside the fair,

Scottish & Newcastle Breweries Limited



INTERIM REPORT

26 weeks ended October 30, 1977

For the 26 weeks ended October 30, 1977 the Group profit before taxation was £22,103,000 (1976: £20,492,000). The Directors have declared an interim dividend of 1.35p (1976: 1.20p) per ordinary share in respect of the year ending April 30, 1978. Arising from the reduction of 1 percent in the rate of advance corporation tax for 1977-78, the Directors have resolved to pay a supplementary final dividend of 0.04695p per ordinary share making a total dividend for the year ended May 1, 1977 of 3.09920p per share. These dividends will be paid together on April 12, 1978 to shareholders on the register at the close of business on March 16, 1978.

The unaudited results for 26 weeks ended October 30, 1977 were as follows:

	26 weeks ended October 30, 1977 (unaudited) £000	26 weeks ended October 31, 1976 (unaudited) £000	52 weeks ended May 1, 1977 £000
Turnover	194,751	171,973	345,897
Operating profit	21,589	19,445	33,732
Associated companies	1,235	1,407	2,205
Financial income	1,097	1,844	3,586
Financial expenses	(1,818)	(2,204)	(4,410)
Profit before taxation	22,103	20,492	35,113
Taxation	11,570	10,804	17,646
Earnings after taxation	10,533	9,688	17,467
Preference dividend	265	265	530
Earnings attributable to ordinary shareholders	10,268	9,423	16,937
Interim dividend	3,774	3,266	3,266
Final dividend	—	—	5,041
Supplementary final dividend	—	—	131
	6,494	6,157	8,499
Earnings per share	3.69p	3.46p	6.22p

Sales of ale and lager by volume for the 26 weeks ended October 30, 1977 were 4 percent down on the corresponding period last year, reflecting the trend of the industry. For this Company, the shortage of cask was a major contributory factor in this decrease. Our wine and spirit subsidiary showed an improved performance in both home and export markets. There was a good increase in hotel profits.

In the current half year, sales suffered from the effects of stoppages and go-slows in October and November. Though showing an encouraging recovery there will be some effect on results. Can supplies have returned to normal. Lager sales continue to make progress.

Twentieth Century-Fox International Corporation

Notice of Redemption of 5% Guaranteed Sinking Fund Debentures Due 1987

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to the provisions of the Indenture dated as of December 1, 1967, among Twentieth Century-Fox International Corporation (the "Company") and Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation, Guarantor, and The Chase Manhattan Bank (National Association), as Trustee and United States Trust Company of New York, as Successor Trustee, that all outstanding 5% Guaranteed Sinking Fund Debentures Due 1987 of the Company (the "Debentures") have been called for redemption and will be redeemed on February 15, 1978 (the "date fixed for redemption"), at the redemption price of 102½% of the principal amount thereof together with accrued interest to the date fixed for redemption, payment of which will be made at the principal corporate trust office of The Chase Manhattan Bank (National Association), Corporate Bond Redemption, 1 New York Plaza, 14th Floor, New York, New York 10015, or subject to any laws or regulations applicable thereto, at the offices of The Chase Manhattan Bank in London, Paris and Frankfurt; the offices of Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas in Paris and Brussels; the office of Banca Commerciale Italiana in Milan; the office of Kredietbank S.A. Luxembourg in Luxembourg; and the office of Nederlandse Kredietbank in Amsterdam, upon presentation and surrender of the Debentures with all coupons pertaining thereto maturing after the date fixed for redemption. On and after the date fixed for redemption interest on the Debentures will cease to accrue. After the close of business on February 10, 1978 the Debentures will no longer be convertible into the Guarantor's Common Stock.

Holders of Debentures have, as alternatives to redemption, the right to sell Debentures through usual brokerage facilities and the following further rights:

Conversion of Debentures into Common Stock of the Guarantor

The Debentures are currently convertible into Common Stock of the Guarantor at the conversion price of \$25.00 per share (or \$24.6154 shares of Common Stock per \$1,000 principal amount of Debentures) but such right to convert will terminate at the close of business on February 10, 1978, the fifth day prior to the date fixed for redemption. Until such time holders of Debentures have the right to convert their Debentures into shares of Common Stock of the Guarantor at the conversion price of \$25.00 per share upon surrender of Debentures with all unexpired coupons pertaining thereto, at the principal corporate trust office of The Chase Manhattan Bank (National Association), Corporate Bond Redemption, 1 New York Plaza, 14th Floor, New York, New York 10015, or subject to any laws or regulations applicable thereto, at the offices of The Chase Manhattan Bank in London, Paris and Frankfurt; the offices of Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas in Paris and Brussels; the office of Banca Commerciale Italiana in Milan; the office of Kredietbank S.A. Luxembourg in Luxembourg; and the office of Nederlandse Kredietbank in Amsterdam, accompanied by written notice in the form provided on the Debenture that the holder elects to convert the Debenture and specifying the name or names (with address) in which the stock certificate is to be issued, and, if so required by the Company or the Successor Trustee, accompanied by a written instrument or instruments of transfer in form satisfactory to the Company and to the Successor Trustee duly executed by the holder or his attorney duly authorized in writing. No fractional shares are issuable upon any conversion. The Company will make an adjustment for any fractional share interest in cash at the current market value thereof, equal to such fraction multiplied by the last sales price on the New York Stock Exchange of the Common Stock on the day of conversion. No payment or adjustment will be made upon conversion of Debentures for accrued interest thereon or for dividends on shares of Common Stock issuable upon conversion.

Important Information for Debenture Holders

From June 30, 1977 through January 4, 1978, the reported prices at which the Common Stock of the Guarantor sold on the New York Stock Exchange ranged from a high of \$26½ to a low of \$19½. The last reported sale price of the Common Stock on the New York Stock Exchange on January 4, 1978 was \$21½ per share. So long as the market price of the Common Stock is \$26½ or more, holders of Debentures, upon conversion, will receive Common Stock having a lesser market value (with cash paid in lieu of fractional shares) than the cash which they would receive upon redemption.

TWENTIETH CENTURY-FOX INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION
By E. Lyle Marshall, Treasurer
Dated: January 13, 1978

MARKET REPORTS

(midday indicators)

Eurobond prices

US STRAIGHTS (%)	Offer	Offer
Australia 7 1/2 1984	98 1/2	98 1/2
Australia 8 1/2 1984	98 1/2	98 1/2
Australia 9 1/2 1984	98 1/2	98 1/2
Australia 10 1/2 1984	98 1/2	98 1/2
Australia 11 1/2 1984	98 1/2	98 1/2
Australia 12 1/2 1984	98 1/2	98 1/2
Australia 13 1/2 1984	98 1/2	98 1/2
Australia 14 1/2 1984	98 1/2	98 1/2
Australia 15 1/2 1984	98 1/2	98 1/2
Australia 16 1/2 1984	98 1/2	98 1/2
Australia 17 1/2 1984	98 1/2	98 1/2
Australia 18 1/2 1984	98 1/2	98 1/2
Australia 19 1/2 1984	98 1/2	98 1/2
Australia 20 1/2 1984	98 1/2	98 1/2
Australia 21 1/2 1984	98 1/2	98 1/2
Australia 22 1/2 1984	98 1/2	98 1/2
Australia 23 1/2 1984	98 1/2	98 1/2
Australia 24 1/2 1984	98 1/2	98 1/2
Australia 25 1/2 1984	98 1/2	98 1/2
Australia 26 1/2 1984	98 1/2	98 1/2
Australia 27 1/2 1984	98 1/2	98 1/2
Australia 28 1/2 1984	98 1/2	98 1/2
Australia 29 1/2 1984	98 1/2	98 1/2
Australia 30 1/2 1984	98 1/2	98 1/2

Commodities

COPPER	Offer	Offer
Cash wire, 100lb, 100% pure	100.00	100.00
Cash wire, 100lb, 99.99% pure	99.99	99.99
Cash wire, 100lb, 99.98% pure	99.98	99.98
Cash wire, 100lb, 99.97% pure	99.97	99.97
Cash wire, 100lb, 99.96% pure	99.96	99.96
Cash wire, 100lb, 99.95% pure	99.95	99.95
Cash wire, 100lb, 99.94% pure	99.94	99.94
Cash wire, 100lb, 99.93% pure	99.93	99.93
Cash wire, 100lb, 99.92% pure	99.92	99.92
Cash wire, 100lb, 99.91% pure	99.91	99.91
Cash wire, 100lb, 99.90% pure	99.90	99.90
Cash wire, 100lb, 99.89% pure	99.89	99.89
Cash wire, 100lb, 99.88% pure	99.88	99.88
Cash wire, 100lb, 99.87% pure	99.87	99.87
Cash wire, 100lb, 99.86% pure	99.86	99.86
Cash wire, 100lb, 99.85% pure	99.85	99.85
Cash wire, 100lb, 99.84% pure	99.84	99.84
Cash wire, 100lb, 99.83% pure	99.83	99.83
Cash wire, 100lb, 99.82% pure	99.82	99.82
Cash wire, 100lb, 99.81% pure	99.81	99.81
Cash wire, 100lb, 99.80% pure	99.80	99.80

India ban on crude palm oil imports

Kuala Lumpur, Jan 12.—The Indian Government has decided to ban crude palm oil imports to protect its domestic palm oil industry. The ban is effective from January 15, 1978. The Indian Government has also decided to ban the export of crude palm oil from India. The ban is effective from January 15, 1978. The Indian Government has also decided to ban the export of crude palm oil from India. The ban is effective from January 15, 1978.

Wall Street

New York, Jan 12.—Prices opened lower but then moved slightly higher in active trading. The Dow Jones Industrial Average closed down 5.63 points to 775.90. The S&P 500 closed down 5.63 points to 100.00. The Nasdaq closed down 5.63 points to 100.00. The New York Stock Exchange closed down 5.63 points to 100.00. The New York Stock Exchange closed down 5.63 points to 100.00.

Bank Base Rates

Bank	Rate	Rate
ABN Bank	6 1/2	6 1/2
Barclays Bank	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of America	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of England	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of France	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of Germany	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of Italy	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of Japan	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of Korea	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of Mexico	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of Netherlands	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of Norway	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of Sweden	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of Switzerland	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of Taiwan	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of Thailand	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of United Kingdom	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of United States	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of West Germany	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of Yugoslavia	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of Zaire	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of Zimbabwe	6 1/2	6 1/2

Gold gains \$2.50

New York, Jan 12.—Gold futures closed higher in active trading on the New York Stock Exchange. The price of gold rose \$2.50 to \$350.00 per ounce. The price of gold rose \$2.50 to \$350.00 per ounce. The price of gold rose \$2.50 to \$350.00 per ounce. The price of gold rose \$2.50 to \$350.00 per ounce.

Foreign Exchange

Country	Rate	Rate
Australia	1.48	1.48
Canada	1.00	1.00
France	6.55	6.55
Germany	3.36	3.36
Italy	1.36	1.36
Japan	163.00	163.00
Netherlands	2.36	2.36
Norway	4.76	4.76
Sweden	4.66	4.66
Switzerland	1.56	1.56
Taiwan	20.00	20.00
Thailand	20.00	20.00
United Kingdom	2.26	2.26
United States	1.00	1.00
West Germany	3.36	3.36
Yugoslavia	13.66	13.66
Zaire	20.00	20.00
Zimbabwe	20.00	20.00

Discount market

Lombard Street continued to experience extremely tight credit conditions yesterday. The Bank of England gave large assistance which still probably did not fully meet the very substantial shortage. The Bank of England gave large assistance which still probably did not fully meet the very substantial shortage. The Bank of England gave large assistance which still probably did not fully meet the very substantial shortage.

Money Market Rates

Instrument	Rate	Rate
3-month Treasury bill	10.00	10.00
6-month Treasury bill	10.00	10.00
12-month Treasury bill	10.00	10.00
3-month commercial paper	10.00	10.00
6-month commercial paper	10.00	10.00
12-month commercial paper	10.00	10.00
3-month bank deposit	10.00	10.00
6-month bank deposit	10.00	10.00
12-month bank deposit	10.00	10.00
3-month swap	10.00	10.00
6-month swap	10.00	10.00
12-month swap	10.00	10.00

Recent Issues

Company	Amount	Amount
ABN Bank	100.00	100.00
Barclays Bank	100.00	100.00
Bank of America	100.00	100.00
Bank of England	100.00	100.00
Bank of France	100.00	100.00
Bank of Germany	100.00	100.00
Bank of Italy	100.00	100.00
Bank of Japan	100.00	100.00
Bank of Korea	100.00	100.00
Bank of Mexico	100.00	100.00
Bank of Netherlands	100.00	100.00
Bank of Norway	100.00	100.00
Bank of Sweden	100.00	100.00
Bank of Switzerland	100.00	100.00
Bank of Taiwan	100.00	100.00
Bank of Thailand	100.00	100.00
Bank of United Kingdom	100.00	100.00
Bank of United States	100.00	100.00
Bank of West Germany	100.00	100.00
Bank of Yugoslavia	100.00	100.00
Bank of Zaire	100.00	100.00
Bank of Zimbabwe	100.00	100.00

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Norway	4.76	4.76
Sweden	4.66	4.66
Switzerland	1.56	1.56
Taiwan	20.00	20.00
Thailand	20.00	20.00
United Kingdom	2.26	2.26
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12-month commercial paper	10.00	10.00
3-month bank deposit	10.00	10.00
6-month bank deposit	10.00	10.00
12-month bank deposit	10.00	10.00
3-month swap	10.00	10.00
6-month swap	10.00	10.00
12-month swap	10.00	10.00

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

Company	Amount	Amount
ABN Bank	100.00	100.00
Barclays Bank	100.00	100.00
Bank of America	100.00	100.00
Bank of England	100.00	100.00
Bank of France	100.00	100.00
Bank of Germany	100.00	100.00
Bank of Italy	100.00	100.00
Bank of Japan	100.00	100.00
Bank of Korea	100.00	100.00
Bank of Mexico	100.00	100.00
Bank of Netherlands	100.00	100.00
Bank of Norway	100.00	100.00
Bank of Sweden	100.00	100.00
Bank of Switzerland	100.00	100.00
Bank of Taiwan	100.00	100.00
Bank of Thailand	100.00	100.00
Bank of United Kingdom	100.00	100.00
Bank of United States	100.00	100.00
Bank of West Germany	100.00	100.00
Bank of Yugoslavia	100.00	100.00
Bank of Zaire	100.00	100.00
Bank of Zimbabwe	100.00	100.00

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Bank of Korea	100.00	100.00
Bank of Mexico	100.00	100.00
Bank of Netherlands	100.00	100.00
Bank of Norway	100.00	100.00
Bank of Sweden	100.00	100.00
Bank of Switzerland	100.00	100.00
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Bank of Korea	100.00	100.00
Bank of Mexico	100.00	100.00
Bank of Netherlands	100.00	100.00
Bank of Norway	100.00	100.00
Bank of Sweden	100.00	100.00
Bank of Switzerland	100.00	100.00
Bank of Taiwan	100.00	100.00
Bank of Thailand	100.00	100.00
Bank of United Kingdom	100.00	100.00
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Bank of Italy	100.00	100.00
Bank of Japan	100.00	100.00
Bank of Korea	100.00	100.00
Bank of Mexico	100.00	100.00
Bank of Netherlands	100.00	100.00
Bank of Norway	100.00	100.00
Bank of Sweden	100.00	100.00
Bank of Switzerland	100.00	100.00
Bank of Taiwan	100.00	100.00
Bank of Thailand	100.00	100.00
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Bank of Japan	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of Korea	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of Mexico	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of Netherlands	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of Norway	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of Sweden	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of Switzerland	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of Taiwan	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of Thailand	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of United Kingdom	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of United States	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of West Germany	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of Yugoslavia	6 1/2	6 1/2
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Foreign Exchange

Country	Rate	Rate
Australia	1.48	1.48
Canada	1.00	1.00
France	6.55	6.55
Germany	3.36	3.36

Stock Exchange Prices

Late slump

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Jan 3. Dealings End, Today. \$ Courango Day, Jan 16. Settlement Day, Jan 21.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous day

High Low Last										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % P/E										Price Chgs % 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INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT AND MERCHANT BANKING

A major, locally owned Bank in an Arab Gulf State requires an officer with detailed working knowledge of all aspects of documentation for Eurobond issues and syndicated loans.

The position would suit someone between 25 and 35 years of age who is willing to spend a limited period abroad in order to add depth to his career experience.

The individual should be prepared to live in the Middle East for at least two years and to train local staff in the support of the international lending operations of the Bank.

A university degree of appropriate qualification is preferred, but is not essential provided a thorough knowledge of the technical aspects of the job can be demonstrated.

The Bank, which is one of the oldest in the area, has an excellent reputation, both in the domestic and international markets, together with first-class connections. The international lending operations of the Bank have been developed to a point where in order to sustain the development and expand this additional capacity for growth, another specialist is now needed in the International Banking Group at the head office.

A competitive salary will be offered in an income-tax-free country together with free accommodation, car, and generous arrangements for home leave.

Interviews will be held in London during the first half of February, 1978. Please reply giving full details of present position and other relevant information to:

BOX 0354 K, THE TIMES

REMPLOY LIMITED Company U.K. Marketing Manager

Salary: About £7,000 per annum, plus 1800 c.c. car
Location: Cricklewood, London N.W.2

Remploy Limited, the Government sponsored Company which employs some 3,000 disabled people (in a total employee strength of 10,000) in 87 U.K. factories, has sales of about £25,000,000 per annum. It is now looking for a specialist Company U.K. Marketing Manager, responsible to the Commercial Director, the previous Manager having been promoted to a Board appointment.

The successful candidate—male or female—will make a major contribution to the development of the Company's marketing policy and hence to higher sales.

The Manager will be in charge of a sophisticated specialist department which obtains enquiries for business from Central Government Departments which it then offers to one or other of the three Trading Groups. Such business amounts to about one-third of Company turnover.

The Manager will be expected to initiate sales, marketing and advertising developments, in conjunction with the Directors in charge of the three Trading Groups, and will be in control of Advertising Agents. He/she will also control the three Company Sales Showrooms.

Applicants must have had successful big company experience in modern marketing of consumer products, and in getting the best out of large advertising agencies.

Benefits include annual holiday of 23 working days, contributory pension scheme (recently modernised) and free life assurance.

Concise applications, with details of age, experience, qualifications and present salary, should be sent, in confidence, to:

Personnel Director, Remploy Limited 415, Edgware Road, Cricklewood, London NW2 6LR

Remploy

BSRA

DEPUTY MANAGER
TECHNICAL SERVICES

BSRA has a worldwide reputation for R & D in the fields of ship design, manufacture and operation. The Technical Services Department has been established on a separate commercial basis to exploit, worldwide, the expertise, services and software of the Association.

A Deputy Manager is now required for this Department. The successful candidate should have a technological training in an engineering or similar field (not necessarily marine). He or she should have some experience in the identification and development of markets for technological services, and should have a record of achievement in the management of technology contracts in an industrial rather than a research context. There is no hard and fast age limit, but the appointment is likely to be attractive to candidates under 40.

Conditions of employment are in line with those of the most progressive employers, including a first class pension and life assurance scheme and flexible working hours and the appointment will carry an attractive salary.

Assistance will be given with removal expenses in appropriate cases.

Applications should be addressed to:

MRS J. E. YOUNG,
THE BRITISH SHIP RESEARCH ASSOCIATION,
WALLSEND RESEARCH STATION,
WALLSEND, TYNE AND WEAR, NE24 4UY.

THE BRITISH SHIP RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

TECHNICIAN EDUCATION COUNCIL

ASSISTANT
CHIEF OFFICER

The Council invites applications for this important new post, which will carry substantial responsibility and offer challenging opportunities in an expanding organisation. Salary will be in the region of £9,000 p.a.

Applicants should be well qualified and have held a senior appointment in teaching, educational administration or industrial training. As the successful candidate will be a member of the management team, relevant experience and skills are essential.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Chief Officer (Ref ACO) at 76 Portland Place, London, W1N 4SA. Closing date for applications 27th January 1978.

National Union of Teachers appointment of

HEAD OF RESEARCH UNIT

Applications are invited for the newly created post of Head of the Research Unit of the National Union of Teachers. The Unit will be primarily concerned with research in the promotion of the Union's work and policies in the fields of education, teachers' salaries, pensions and working conditions. Previous experience in research and a mastery of statistical and research techniques is essential.

Salary: £5,735 to £6,285 (including 1976 and 1977 supplements) plus London allowance £400.

Further details of the post and an application form can be obtained from the General Secretary, National Union of Teachers, Hamilton House, Mableton Place, London WC1R 9BD (Tel. 01-387 2442).

Applications should be sent not later than Saturday 28th January, 1978.

Group Accountant

Salary £7,500 negotiable & Car

location Kingston

Age 30

We are retained by a public company to find a chartered accountant with experience of contracting. Basic duties would include overall responsibility for group companies accounting, preparation of monthly cash flow statements, production of annual accounts, consideration of standardisation of accounting procedures and implementation of recommendations. Commensurate pension scheme, 4 weeks annual holiday.

APPLICATIONS TO: D. J. Cakeshead, F.C.A., Pinner, Cakeshead & Co., 113 High Street, Hampton Hill, Middlesex, TW12 1PF, giving details of career and salary to date.

SHEFFIELD CITY POLYTECHNIC

YORKSHIRE & HUMBERSIDE

REGIONAL MANAGEMENT CENTRE

REGIONAL OFFICER

Salary Scale: £8,529-£9,093

This is a new post and the person appointed will be the senior executive officer of the Centre, responsible for the control, implementation of policies and maintaining effective liaison throughout the region. The Centre is concerned with management education, training and development to meet the needs of the region and with making the best use of the resources of the region and with making a contribution to the development of the region.

The person appointed must be able to make a significant contribution to the development of the region and to the management of the Centre.

Applications should be sent to the Regional Officer, Sheffield City Polytechnic, 113 High Street, Sheffield, S1 1PF, giving details of career and salary to date.

PERSONNEL SELECTION

36 BURTON CHAMBERS, 46 CRUICK SHAW, LIVERPOOL L1 5DD.

PROPERTY

A top position in a Fulham based Estate Agents established since 1911 and who also control a public property company and have their own building yard, will become vacant due to illness.

Applicants should be qualified and experienced in all aspects of the profession as well as having managerial ability.

Further details will be sent on receipt of brief 'curriculum vitae'.

A.W. Allen F.C.A., Gilbert House, River Walk, Tonbridge, Kent.

County Valuer and Land Agent

£11,578 x 267(3) £12,379 inclusive as at 1st July, 1977

The County Valuer and Land Agent is retiring in August, 1978, and the Council now wish to consider the appointment of a successor.

The Department employs a staff of 70, 20 of whom are professional officers. The Chief Officer provides a consultancy service to the Council and acts as their agent for all matters relating to the acquisition and disposal of land and property.

Applicants (male or female) must be members of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors or otherwise suitably qualified.

The Council operates a removal and resettlement scheme which will be payable to appropriate cases and the post will attract a lump sum car and subsistence allowance.

Further details and an application form may be obtained from County Personnel Department, West Sussex County Council, County Hall, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 1SU, or by telephoning Chichester (0243) 35100 Extension 291.

West Sussex County Council

ORDER OF ST. JOHN & THE BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY

Joint Committee

The present General Secretary is retiring in June, 1978, and a successor is now sought for this key post.

The Joint Committee is principally concerned with the welfare of Service and ex-Service men, particularly those war-disabled. This involves domiciliary and institutional care.

Applicants should have sound experience of financial and general administration and a vocation for charitable work. A relevant professional qualification would be an advantage. Preferred age range 45-55.

It is hoped that the successful applicant will be able to take up the appointment in April or May. The salary will reflect the responsibility of the post.

Applications should be made to the General Secretary, 6 Grosvenor Crescent, London, SW1X 7EH.

BRITISH FILM INSTITUTE

HEAD OF EDUCATIONAL

ADVISORY SERVICE

The Educational Advisory Service is the Institute's principal point of contact with the educational community. It is a service which includes advising teachers, and helping to construct and arrange continuing teacher education, production of study materials and publications, and providing a lecture service.

The Head of Department is responsible for managing and developing these activities, and is a member of the Institute's Executive. It is intended that a research element will be added to the work of the department, and the Head of Department will have overall responsibility for establishing research arrangements and orientations.

Candidates should have good educational experience, well informed knowledge of current debates in film, television and other media in general, and be capable of organising with experience of general and financial administration.

Starting salary £7,810, on a scale rising to £12,740 (maximum). The successful candidate will be paid on a basis to be discussed on appointment. The successful candidate will be expected to contribute to the Institute's research and advisory work.

Information from Personnel Department, 21 Dean Street, London, W1P 5AA. Tel: 01-437 4335. Closing date 18th February, 1978.

AFRICA CENTRE

DIRECTOR-GENERAL

The Council of Management of the Africa Centre seeks a successor to the present Director-General.

Suitable candidates will already know something of the work of the Centre and its unique educational, cultural and social centre founded by a group of Christians in 1947.

The job entails responsibility for every aspect of the Centre's operations, including liaison with interested Governments and other organisations, and the vital task of raising finance for the Centre.

Salary between £6,500 and about £7,500 p.a.

LETTERS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE CONSULTANT ADVISING THE AFRICA CENTRE, 113 HIGH STREET, HAMPTON HILL, MIDDLESEX, TW12 1PF, GIVING DETAILS OF CAREER AND SALARY TO DATE.

PERSONNEL SELECTION

36 BURTON CHAMBERS, 46 CRUICK SHAW, LIVERPOOL L1 5DD.

NIGERIA

GENERAL MANAGER

ROAD HAULAGE TRANSPORT COMPANY

SALARY APPROXIMATELY £12,000 PER ANNUM

A major Nigerian group requires a very experienced General Manager to take over the management of the Group's Transport Company which is a large district of modern transport units and further information from Personnel Department, 21 Dean Street, London, W1P 5AA. Tel: 01-437 4335. Closing date 18th February, 1978.

PERSONNEL SELECTION

36 BURTON CHAMBERS, 46 CRUICK SHAW, LIVERPOOL L1 5DD.

Western Australia ASSISTANT DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF EDUCATION (TECHNICAL EDUCATION)

Following recommendations from the Western Australian Post-Secondary Education Commission the Government of Western Australia has decided to upgrade and expand the provision of Technical Education services in the State. These services are provided through the Technical Education Division of the State's Education Department.

The direction and development of technical and further education will be the responsibility of a new officer to be appointed as the rank of Assistant Director-General.

ADMINISTRATIVE: All matters relating to Western Australian technical education, including developing courses to meet emerging needs; liaising with industry; planning for the establishment of technical institutions; budgetary and staffing controls. Consult with and advise the Minister, the Director-General of Education and various educational committees.

THREE MONTHS' long service leave after seven years' continuous service; four weeks' annual leave plus 13 Statutory Public Holidays; generous cumulative sick leave entitlements; superannuation benefits and other general conditions applicable to permanent public servants.

THE cost of first class air fares incurred by the appointee, wife and dependent children under the age of sixteen years, plus a reasonable amount for removal of essential personal and household effects, subject to the appointee entering into an agreement to remain in the employ of the State for one to three years, according to assistance given.

A single appointee will receive the cost of first class air fares. Some assistance toward the cost of removal of personal effects will be granted.

To state age, citizenship, qualifications and experience with the names of two referees to the:

Chairman, Public Service Board,
111 St. George's Terrace, PERTH 6000, Western Australia
from whom further information is available on request.
Closing: January 27, 1978.

Applications:

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HOLIDAYS AND RELEASE

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Choose from

Piano. No.
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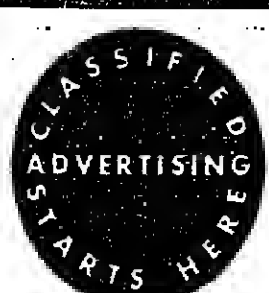
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To place an advertisement in any of these categories, tel:

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APPOINTMENTS
01-278 9161
PROPERTY ESTATE AGENTS
01-278 9231
PERSONAL TRADE
01-278 9351

MANCHESTER OFFICE
061-834 1234

Queries in connection with advertisements that have appeared, other than cancellations or alterations, tel:

Classified Queries Dept
01-837 1234, Ext 7180

Animals and Pets	27
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Wanted	27

Don't miss the classified section in the Times

Deadlines for cancellations and alterations to ads (except for classified) are 10.30 a.m. on the day before publication.

For the classified section, the deadline is 12 noon on the day before publication.

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BIRTHS

POWER—On January 10th, at St. Mary's Hospital, Exeter, a daughter (Emily Rose) to Mr. and Mrs. George Alan Power. Birth weight 7lb 10oz. A brother (John) born January 11th, 1977. A sister (Sarah) born January 12th, 1977. A brother (David) born January 13th, 1977. A sister (Anna) born January 14th, 1977. A brother (James) born January 15th, 1977. A sister (Mary) born January 16th, 1977. A brother (Peter) born January 17th, 1977. A sister (Elizabeth) born January 18th, 1977. A brother (Thomas) born January 19th, 1977. A sister (Margaret) born January 20th, 1977. A brother (Christopher) born January 21st, 1977. A sister (Victoria) born January 22nd, 1977. A brother (Andrew) born January 23rd, 1977. A sister (Sophia) born January 24th, 1977. A brother (Nicholas) born January 25th, 1977. A sister (Eleanor) born January 26th, 1977. A brother (Frederick) born January 27th, 1977. A sister (Charlotte) born January 28th, 1977. A brother (William) born January 29th, 1977. 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